

# THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY GUARDIAN

THE  
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JULY 25 - 31, 2012  
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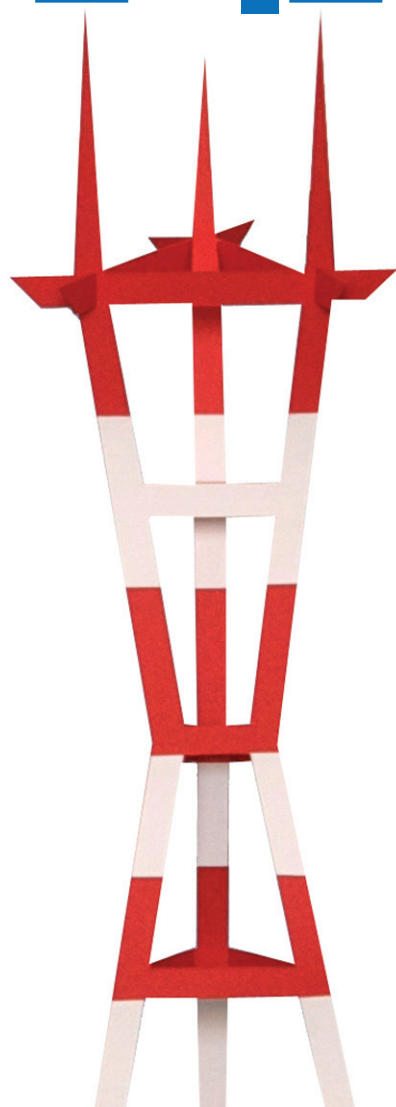
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# BEST OF THE BAY • 2012 •



## FLYING HIGH

BY MARKE B.  
marke@sfbg.com

Welcome to the Guardian's Best of the Bay 2012!

This is our 38th annual celebration of the people, places, and things that make living here such a great experience. Inside, you'll find a feast of winners in categories like Best Burrito, Best Band, Best Strip Club, Best Shoe Store, Best Place to Watch the Sunset, Best Drag Queen, and beyond.

More than 15,000 of our readers voted in our **Best of the Bay Readers Poll** for their local, independent favorites in more than 200 of these categories, including several new ones we added this year, like Best Yoga Teacher, Best Comedy Show, Best Food Festival, and Best Lunch.

You'll find the results inside — as well as 150 **Best of the Bay Editors Picks** that highlight some Guardian favorites, old and new, that we think deserve some special recognition for lighting up our lives this year.

We've also included many enthusiastic quotes from our readers who responded to the question, "Best of the Best: What's your favorite thing about living here?" We got tons of great answers! We wish we could run all of them. But rest assured, there's a whole lot to love in the Bay.

This year, there was no question that the state of the economy had a profound effect. The Occupy movement continues to resonate here, even while many of the world's biggest tech companies draw well-to-do people from all over the world. As the population of the Bay Area shifts and grows, debates about authenticity and integration have raged, and sometimes it seems like everyone's at sixes and sevens.



And yet. The sheer gorgeousness, thriving alternative culture, and promise of freedom and acceptance that are unique to our shores continue to attract amazing characters, visionary dreamers, and explorers of both inner-cosmic and rugged outdoor terrain.

We at the Guardian like to think of the Best of the Bay issue as a special document — a map charted through our crazy little corner of the universe, drawn up by people coming together to talk about the things we love.

In 1974, Esquire magazine asked us for ideas for its Best of the USA issue, which led us to publish the original Best of the Bay. Made by the people of the Bay Area for the people of the Bay Area, it's our opportunity to celebrate the people and places that make this city great. We were the first weekly paper to publish a regular "best of" issue. Thirty-eight years later — and 45 years after we opened our doors — we're still going strong.

Editing this year's issue with Caitlin Donohue was a hoot. I shower grateful smooches on all my fabulous collaborators, especially creative aces Brooke Robertson and Mirissa Neff, diligent copy editor Emily Appelbaum, the Guardian staff, and the ever-supportive Hunky Beau, my own personal Best of the Bay.

But most of all we thank you, dear reader, for your generous participation, for making the Bay Area such an astounding place to live, and for turning us on to great new things this year. Peace.

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# ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Chloé Fleury is a French illustrator who fell in love with international travel on a trip to California when she was 10 years old. She now lives in San Francisco, in the very colorful and inspiring Mission District. She likes to transform flat sheets of paper into three-dimensional objects, occasionally bringing them to life through stop motion animation. She has created works for many adventurous clients, including Cosmopolitan, Warner Bros Records, Condé Nast Traveler, Chronicle Books, and Anthology.

CHLOÉ FLEURY PHOTO AND ALL ILLUSTRATION PHOTOS BY KARA BRODGESELL

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# LOCAL HEROES

• ALEX TOM & SHAW SAN LIU •



LIU AND TOM IN CHINATOWN: "IT'S ABOUT EMPOWERING FOLKS." PHOTO BY BRITTANY M. POWELL

Alex Tom and Shaw San Liu — the executive director and lead organizer for the Chinese Progressive Association, which celebrates its 40th anniversary on Aug. 4 — have laid the groundwork for a progressive resurgence in San Francisco by organizing Chinese immigrants and actively building close and mutually supportive relationships with working-class allies throughout the city.

The two have been involved in just about every recent effort to counter the pro-corporate neoliberalism that has come to dominate City Hall these days. They have seized space with Occupy San Francisco and they have supported labor unions and helped to create the Progressive Workers Alliance. They have fought foreclosures and pushed for affordable housing reforms, and they have protected vulnerable immigrant workers from wage theft by unscrupulous employers.

"Shaw San and Alex are incredibly talented organizers and movement builders who are managing to do the nearly impossible," said N'Tanya Lee, who worked closely with the pair as the director of Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth. "They have built an authentic base of working-class Chinese immigrants who are interested in fighting for change in their community, and

who are creating a grassroots organization at the forefront of building multi-racial alliances to combat the divide-and-conquer strategies that are confronting us."

Liu, who joined CPA six years ago, said she's always inspired to see the old photographs on the walls of CPA's office, and to read the history of CPA's organizing and advocacy on behalf of working people. She said the organization has always understood the need to forge alliances with labor unions and other progressive interests.

"The organization itself has been, since its inception, playing a critical role in bridging the needs of Chinese interests with other communities," Liu said. "I've always seen my role as bridge building."

Today — with stagnant real wages, a deteriorating social safety net, and growing power by corporations that enjoy unprecedented political clout thanks to Citizens United and other court rulings — the need to organize people across cultural lines is more important than ever, even if that begins by addressing the individual needs of each community.

"Always at our core, it's about empowering our folks to be able to voice their own struggles and visions," Liu said.

Working to build that capacity

within the Chinese immigrant community is hard and important work, Liu said, but it's equally important to connect with the struggles of working-class people from other communities, uniting to effectively counter the political dominance of employers and property owners.

Liu framed the struggle as: "How do we build unity and not have that be lip service?"

Tom and Liu have demonstrated that they know how to do just that, despite the diversity of sometimes-conflicting interests on the left and in a working class squeezed by recession and feelings of economic uncertainty.

"The issue that will unify people is good jobs that are accessible to everyone," Liu said.

Yet she also said that working class organizing is needed to counter the simplistic "jobs" rhetoric coming from City Hall, which politicians are using to advocate for tax cuts to big corporations.

"More and more, it exposes itself as a total lie," Liu said of the argument that the city should be facilitating private sector job creation with business tax cuts. "So much points to the fact that the US economic system doesn't benefit everyone ... When we talk about jobs, we talk about what kinds of jobs we want and for whom." **SFBG**

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# LOCAL HEROES

## • STARDUST & ROSS RHODES •

Ross Rhodes and Stardust, like all of the people involved in Occupy Bernal, are neighbors. But until Stardust helped found the group — a local take on Occupy focused on stopping unjust foreclosures and evictions — they didn't know each other.

Now they do, and if it wasn't for Occupy Bernal, Rhodes is sure he would no longer have the house that his parents bought in 1964.

A former college football star, Rhodes injured his knees and back playing. He lives on disability payments, volunteering at the 100 Percent College Prep Club, and bringing home-cooked meals to seniors in his area. He also coached kids in the Junior 49ers program until it became too hard on his injuries.

Stardust, an ESL teacher and oboe player in the Bay Area Rainbow Symphony and the SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, has been working for LGBT rights, women's rights, and online civil rights for years. When Occupy took off, he gravitated toward the neighborhood fights against foreclosures.

Like people all over the US, Rhodes and his wife were fooled several years ago by a pick-a-payment loan plan. At the time, World Savings was peddling the deals through neighborhoods, promising potential borrowers that they could send their kids to college, buy a car, take vacations — and modify their loans after a year.

But when Rhodes started to apply for loan modifications, he was denied. He kept receiving let-

ters asking for more information, often the same information he had already given — a common story that led to part of the Homeowners Bill of Rights that will guarantee a single point of contact from the bank. He was stumped when he was told he needed more income — the bank said it wouldn't accept payments that were more than 30 percent of a borrower's income, and Rhodes was getting a fixed disability check.

He found another income

Bernal. They worked with other community groups like Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE) to do physical occupations of homes. But for those who had received a notice of default and a notice of sale — two steps in the foreclosure process that precede the auction of a property — Stardust was there with another tactic.

He spearheaded Occupy the Auctions. He shows up at City Hall at 1:30 every day and tries to disrupt foreclosure auctions. He's been there continuously since April 27, 2012, and has stopped dozens of home sales. When fighting the eviction of a neighbor, he is sometimes backed by more than 100 people. But many days it's just Stardust.

Now, Rhodes is in a loan modification process. Rather than conflicting and confusing machine-generated paper work, he gets regular calls about the status of his modification from a point person in

source as a homecare provider, but after all the time that the bank wouldn't accept his payments, Rhodes was marked as someone who wasn't making payments, and was tracked for foreclosure.

Meanwhile, Occupy Bernal was working on more than 100 similar cases in its neighborhood. The organizers hadn't quite convinced Mayor Ed Lee to help at that point, but Rep. Pelosi's staffers were on their side, getting banks to prioritize the cases of those working with Occupy

Wells Fargo's executive complaint office. He testified in Sacramento in favor of the Homeowners Bill of Rights, which passed July 2. He's also become an Occupy Bernal organizer on top of his other volunteer pursuits.

Stardust battles mega-banks and the city's wealthiest in his work. But he says the biggest challenge is helping people to get over the shame they feel when they realize they are facing foreclosure. "It's not their fault," he says. "It's the system." **SFBG**



STARDUST AND RHODES: SAVING BERNAL, ONE FORECLOSURE AT A TIME PHOTO BY BRITTANY M. POWELL



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# LOCAL HEROES

## • FRIENDS OF ETHICS •

In the summer of 2011, at the behest of the Ethics Commission, the Board of Supervisors put on the ballot a measure that would have loosened some of the rules for campaign consultant reporting, and would have allowed further changes in the city's landmark ethics laws without a vote of the people. It had unanimous support on the board — and frankly, technical changes in campaign laws are not the kind of sexy stuff that gets the public angry.

But a small group, led in part by five former ethics commissioners, took on the task of defeating the measure. The activists also took on the challenge of defeating Prop. E, which would have allowed the supervisors to amend future measures passed by the voters.

Despite being outspent by tens of thousands of dollars, Friends of Ethics — a small grassroots operation — prevailed. Both measures were defeated (32 percent to 67 percent in

the case of Prop. E, the worst loss of all the local measures on the ballot).

The group is great at forming coalitions: in the case of the No on E and F campaign, Friends of Ethics reached out to some 30 organizations that formally joined in opposing the measures after hearing presentations.

The members of FOE are a fractious group of organizers and shit-disturbers who don't always get along or agree on other issues. But they've come together to do something nobody else does: make protecting and expanding political reform laws a front-line priority.

And the battle goes on. Not long after the November 2011 election, Supervisor Scott Wiener introduced legislation that would have led to less disclosure of political contributions before an election, and would have made it easier to conceal who was making contributions and paying for campaign mailers. The Wiener bill

would weaken campaign contribution limit, giving the wealthiest donors greater power in elections.

When the amendments were heard at a well-attended Rules Committee in June (with plenty of public comment from Friends of Ethics), the supervisors sent the amendments back to the Ethics Commission to be rewritten.

The next step for the Friends of Ethics is to work with interested supervisors to push for changes to the city's campaign laws that will actually benefit the public, such as increased transparency in election contributions and expanded campaign restrictions for those receiving contracts and other benefits from the city.

In an era defined by the US Supreme Court's Citizens United case and a nationwide assault on fair elections, it's critical work. **SFBG**

*Friends of Ethics can be reached at [sfethicsfriend@gmail.com](mailto:sfethicsfriend@gmail.com)*



UP AGAINST CITY HALL: (BACK ROW) EILEEN HANSEN, BOB PLANTHOLD, BOB DOCKENDORFF, LARRY BUSH (SEATED) MARK SALOMON, AARON PESKIN, KAREN BABBITT, OLIVER LUBY. NOT PICTURED: CHARLIE MARSTELLAR AND PAUL MELBOSTAD PHOTO BY BRITTANY M. POWELL



# LOCAL HEROES

## • THE OCCUPY MOVEMENT •



OCCUPY AMERICA: FROM NOISY MARCHES AND CAMPS TO STREET THEATER AND CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE, THE OCCUPY MOVEMENT MADE MILLIONS CARE ABOUT POLITICS AGAIN. SF NEWSPAPER CO FILE PHOTOS

When Adbusters magazine called for people to show up on September 17, 2011, in New York City to protest the way Wall Street was holding the country hostage, no one could have predicted what would emerge.

It was the start of a movement, and San Francisco heeded the call. About 100 people gathered in the city's Financial District. They started camping. And the effort exploded.

In the first few weeks, camps sprung up across the country. In Chicago and Los Angeles, in Bethel, Alaska and Tuscaloosa, Alabama, people were drawn together. But, unlike most protests, they stayed together. Night after night.

Along the way, a certain prevailing narrative from outside observers never quite got it right. First the camps were dismissed as nothing but bratty college students and hippies. Then they were called dirty and filled with homeless people. (Occupy challenged the whole idea of a monolithic homeless population. Once they had a home in the Occupy tent cities, homeless people were just — shocker — people.)

By December, when most of the campers had been kicked out, the narrative shifted. Occupy

was resting, hibernating, many declared. Some snickered at the fair-weather activists who would only come out in the sunshine.

But in the Bay Area, at least, that hibernation story was simply false. On December 12, Occupy Oakland brought out thousands for its second port shutdown, in solidarity with port workers. On January 20, downtown banks were forced to close for the day and people in the streets celebrated Occupy San Francisco's shutdown of the financial district. A week later, 400 were arrested when thousands tried to turn a vacant Oakland building into a community center. This was no hibernation.

Actions in some way inspired or fueled by Occupy have continued into the spring and summer. On March 1, Occupy, with a focus on student debt and accessible education, formed the 99 Mile March. Dozens marched from the Bay Area to Sacramento to join thousands of students and supporters in calling for an end to cuts to education; hundreds then occupied the Capitol building. On April 22, Occupy, with a focus on food justice, formed the Gill Tract Occupy the Farm action. Hundreds took a UC Berkeley-stewarded tract of land slated for a baseball diamond and

a Whole Foods and planted it, turning it into a farm with rows of crops, a kids space, and a permaculture garden. On June 15, Occupy formed the Lakeview sit-in and Peoples School for Public Education, which taught day camp to children and refused to leave a beloved Oakland elementary school, one of five slated for closure.

Police eventually won the many-months battle with most Occupy groups in the Bay Area. The camps are mostly gone, though a tenacious group keeps its 24-hour protest in front of the Federal Reserve.

But because of Occupy — and its accompanying burst in resistance, creativity, and the belief that we really can, and must, come together to do something — dozens of Bay Area residents remain in homes that were facing foreclosure. Hundreds of people who felt forgotten and abandoned have found community. Thousands have been inspired to start their own projects and work with others.

When Adbusters called Occupy Wall Street to action, it was under the banner of "democracy not corporatocracy." That ain't an easy project. But it has already made the world a better and more hopeful place. SFBG



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**BEST OF THE BAY**

# CITY LIVING

• EDITORS PICKS •



RENEL BROOKS-MOON: BEST VOICE OF VICTORY

PHOTO © 2012 SF GIANTS

## BEST VOICE OF VICTORY

Whether it's Pablo Sandoval stepping into the box or a struggling rookie trying to catch a break, the next batter up at AT&T park is always ushered in with unwavering excitement and energy. That recognizable voice ping-pong around the field belongs to **Renel Brooks-Moon**. For 12 years, she has served as the announcer for your San Francisco Giants. Born in Oakland, Brooks-Moon currently puts the Bay Area on the map as having the only female announcer — and one of the first African American announcers — in Major League Baseball. From the team's near-World Series victory in 2002 to the eventual 2010 World Series win, Brooks-Moon's voice has narrated the Giants' most shining moments. She's even done what most of the players can't: earn a spot in the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Heads-up to you non-sports fans, Brooks-Moon

has also hosted 98.1 KISS FM's *Renel and Christie in the Morning*, for 15 years.

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## BEST ELECTROSTATIC MEME

Currency traders who live with epic views of the Bay Bridge have all the luck. One night, they're sitting around taking photos through the window of their apartment, the next day their shot is everyone-and-their-mothers' Facebook cover photo. Such was the story of **Phil McGrew's picture of eight bolts of lightning hitting the Bay Bridge** from that incredible April 12 spring storm. McGrew has been taking photos as a hobby for just two years, so he could have hardly expected to capture of all four of the bridge's towers being struck by bolts — or to capture so completely the local Internet imagination. "I showed [my girlfriend] Sherry right away," he told the UK's Daily Mail.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 18 >>

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CONT>>

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**BEST SMOKE ON THE AIR**

We love the activists on the medical marijuana scene, but you can't attend one of the Bay's many cannabis expos without noting that the vast majority of attendees are of the male persuasion. This is precisely what tickles us green about Merry Toppins and Vaperonica Dee's weekly Mutiny Radio podcast **Cannabis Cuts**. The young women spend hours intelligently dissecting the pot news of the day, playing chilled-out stoner tunes, and conducting smooth interviews with many of the area's Mary Jane movers and shakers. "We're changing the idea that there could be a profile of a standard cannabis activist," Dee told us in a recent interview.

And, since public perception of stoners could be the one thing that'll change repressive federal policy, that's an important sound byte, indeed.

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NEW CHICAGO BARBERSHOP #3: BEST FADES WITH FLAIR

PHOTO BY GODOFREDO VASQUEZ/SF NEWSPAPER CO.

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**BEST BAIT BLOG**

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**THE PRESIDIO, ON FOOT, IS A BEAUTIFUL ADVENTURE: PEEK-A-BOO VIEWS OF THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, SECRET ANDY GOLDSWORTHY INSTALLATIONS, AND HARRY POTTER'S GRAVE IN THE PRESIDIO CEMETERY.**

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1551 Fillmore, SF. (415) 563-9793,  
www.newchicagobarbershop.net

about German disco quartet Boney M., and complaints regarding weekday sobriety. Aiming to learn how to poke-pole the blog's titular monkey-face eels from a hands-on video, or find out whether you can use a jig to catch a rockfish? Find out here — or on Lombard's almost-just-as-good tour site, Kirk Lombard's Sea Forager. An ex-Department of Fish and Game surveyor, Lombard preaches sustainable fishing practices in his





fishing seminars — which have included an urban fishing-foraging series conducted through Forage SF. Newbie eel hunters, you've come to the right place.  
www.monkeyfacenews.com



**BEST USERS UNION**  
“Nothing about us, without us.” That’s the mission statement of the **San Francisco Drug Users’ Union**, an innovative organization

sponsored by the Drug Policy Alliance that meets regularly to discuss self-advocacy in politics. If human history — and nature — is any indicator, people are never going to stop using drugs.

Accepting that, it’s an easy leap to imagine, then, that drug users are people. And since drug use takes up a lot of time, and most certainly comes with its own occupational preoccupations,

it stands to reason that these people deserve to be able to organize to represent their own interests (especially when they run contrary to those of the self-propagating prison-industrial complex). The SFDUU makes this logic a reality. A recent project included a showcase of professionally designed models for safe injection sites. Safe places to shoot up? It seems so sensible!

General meetings first and third Mondays, 5:30pm, free. 149 Turk, SF.  
www.sfdrugusersunion.org

### BEST SQUEAKY-CLEAN QUEENDOM

Just as though it were real hamlet, **Norge Laundry and Cleaning Village** is guarded by two watchful matriarchs. The funky pair of female sovereigns, Lorene Howard and Genny Bruggen, have owned Norge for eight years, and recently started hosting live concerts for their people. Frequently delighting the masses are endearing glam rockers the Clarences, who set a joyful tone with Bowie face paint and handfuls of glitter confetti. They

CONTINUES ON PAGE 20 >>



*Creative, curious, mindful,*  
and *socially aware*—these are  
just a few of the words that  
describe the people of CIIS.



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## BEST OF THE BAY

### CITY LIVING

CONT>>

alternate with various singer-songwriters and one-man bands that defy categorization. Howard brags that Norge has the "hot-test dryers in town," but more importantly, she and Bruggen are the warmest proprietors you're likely to find. Added bonus: get on a regular cleaning schedules and the ladies will pass you life advice, and even switch your load from washer to dryer if they find you a welcome addition to the fabric of their lives.  
3908 Grand, Oakl. (510) 653-3435

### BEST PLACE TO EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS

Killer panoramas aren't hard to find in San Francisco. But what if you want a bird's eye view of beauty that's unfettered by cold winds and within an arm's reach from a good read? The **Potrero Hill branch of the San Francisco Public Library** is a modern two-story building awash in natural light. Its best spot is the row of squishy armchairs aligned inches from a wall of windows facing out over the northwestern horizon, with a clear view of the landmarks galore splayed beyond Potrero's rooftops. Claim one of these chairs and you'll be rewarded with an expansive landscape that's at once geographical and intellectual, giving the contemplative bookworm both a superior vista of the peninsula and a clean, well-lighted place from which to explore the literary world.  
1616 20th St., SF. (415) 355-2822, [www.sfpl.org](http://www.sfpl.org)

### BEST ROCK 'EM SOCK 'EM REVELRY

What do you do for a 'tween-ager's birthday? Too old for a scavenger hunt, too young for a dance party, too quickly bored for pretty much anything. Except, that is, a good robot war. Thanks to **Bot Bash Parties**, you don't even have to leave your house for such mechanical mania. Zachary Lytle, who built his first robot when he was younger than some of his party guests, and who has won the world robotics tournament three times, will set up a four-foot-square ring in your living room that'll house a tournament of six vicious, whirring, cutting, flipping remote-controlled robots that can occupy as many as 24 kids. Along the



INSPIRATIONS CAR CLUB OF SF LOWRIDER COUNCIL:  
BEST PRIDE ON WHEELS PHOTO BY TREVOR TRAYNOR

way, partygoers are treated to a basic roboting lesson. For world-weary 'tweens and their parents, this does compute.  
(707) 228-5088, [www.botbashparty.com](http://www.botbashparty.com)

### BEST DRYER DR. FRANKENSTEIN

It wheezes, it shakes, it whines, but somehow, it always gets your clothes clean. Until the day you're ankle-deep in detergent bubbles. Time to call **Noel Appliance!** Noel Guzman knows just about everything that can go wrong with any brand of washer, dryer, even dishwasher. Just text him (he gets back to you in minutes), send his phone a photo of your dead machine, and let him give you an estimate right away. Chances are, Guzman can fix it for way less than it costs to buy a new one — his house calls go for \$35 — so why fill landfills on account of minor mechanical problems? If the thing really is beyond repair, Noel sells floor models and good lightly used appliances for much cheaper than you can find in most stores. And he delivers.  
(650) 740-5296, [www.noelappliance.com](http://www.noelappliance.com)

### BEST BDSM BOOSTERS

Why did the American Psychiatric Association declassify homosexuality as a mental disorder in 1973? It had less to do with the goodness of the controlling body's hearts and more to do with science: study after study failed to find a correlation between being attracted

to your own gender and being any kind of crazy. It is upon this principle that the **Community-Academic Consortium for Research on Alternative Sexualities (CARAS)** was founded in 2005 — only with kink, BDSM, leather, and consensual non-monogamy in mind. CARAS' mission is to educate mental health professionals on alternative sex — not to mention fund the kind of high-quality research that will make the difference when it comes to how academia, and eventually, society, looks upon a little disorderly conduct in the sensual sphere.  
[www.carasresearch.org](http://www.carasresearch.org)

### BEST PAWS ACROSS AMERICA

Never heard of **Pawesome?** Sorry — your computer-bound hours are about to take another nosedive in productivity. Don't wag your hyperactive point-and-clicker at us: it's for a good cause! Local besties Sonia Zjawinski and Sarah Han started the website (now bi-coastal — hey Brooklyn) out of a sheer, possibly manic affection for all things furred and feathered. A brief trip down the front page might reveal a compilation of parakeet-on-skateboard clips, a portrait of a bar kitty, or an automated laser pet toy — but will also cover serious matters, such as the story of a new shelter or a breaking animal rescue from across the country. The site also puts a focus on healthy





animal feed and products, so feel redeemed patronizing its pixels — even if you came looking for that video of the doggie and guinea pig kissing. [www.pawesome.net](http://www.pawesome.net)

#### BEST EPL IN THE AM

You know you're in the presence of hardcore devotion when all available seats at the pub are snagged ahead of a pre-dawn English Premiere League match. Such is the reality at **Danny Coyle's**. The bar's biggest team draws are Liverpool (which lured visiting movie star Clive Owen, spotted rooting for the

#### BEST TM4M TRAINING

Blood is rushing to your first chakra, you're incredibly horny, and you're desperate to get off. But the complexities of your body have you feeling a bit insecure about where to go to have that full-body, no-commitment release you're craving. No fear! San Francisco is a city saturated in sex, and Eros — a safe-sex-on-premises site — hosts casual sexual forays between all kinds of men, regardless of what they have going on below the belt. **Eros' Transmen for Men (TM4M)** is

vets at **Studio Abasi**, a skin-miracle shop tucked above the serene and lush Berkeley City Club. You'll walk away from the salon with a comprehensive guide to your skin, including details a regular dermatologist might forego in favor of a quick prescription. That — combined with owner Shannon Carter's fondness for screening her favorite YouTube videos while she works to keep your mind off the pain of beauty — makes visiting Abasi feel more like swapping skin-care secrets at a sleepover than a trip to the doctor's office. After all, your skin is the outermost layer of yourself, a sensitive subject that can often bring up emotions (and excruciating blackheads.) Better to get a skin care professional who enjoys talking it out, face-to-face. 2315 Durant, Berk. (510) 665-5544, [www.studioabasi.com](http://www.studioabasi.com)

#### BEST PRIDE ON WHEELS

Though some may quibble with the presence of lowriders at Sunday Streets in the Mission — you can often find the hydraulic-enabled, candy-painted whips parked off 24th Street as they prepare to roll out in high-gloss fashion — the cars actually recall an important chapter of the neighborhood's history that doesn't get enough play. According to Roberto Hernandez of the **SF Lowrider Council**, lowriding the Mission's main drags was so popular in the 1980s that tourist buses would come to check out the cars, causing traffic that led to police intervention and brutality. The Council was formed in

CONTINUES ON PAGE 22 >>

## SOME OF THE BEST FOOD IN THE WORLD IS AVAILABLE AT THE FERRY PLAZA FARMERS MARKET. NOT MAY CITIES CAN SAY THAT.

JOE, HAYES VALLEY

Reds in April), Arsenal, Manchester City, Manchester United, Chelsea, and Tottenham Hotspur. Friendly bartenders are skilled at passing pints through a crowd and ample TV screens offer good vantage points from every corner. Danny's and nearby neighbor Mad Dog in the Fog — a larger and often even more-crowded joint — are the reason you'll hear gasps, taunting rhymes, anguished cries, and goal-lull celebrations echoing through the Lower Haight's early a.m. mists. 668 Haight, SF. (415) 558-8375, [www.dannycoyles.com](http://www.dannycoyles.com)

a unique program held every second Thursday developed to foster a dialogue between transmen and cis-men on how to have hot and steamy casual encounters with each other. There's more: Eros is open seven days a week, and is always committed to celebrating the queer masculine spectrum. 2051 Market, SF. (415) 255-3921, [www.erossf.com](http://www.erossf.com)

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## BEST OF THE BAY



### AMERICAN GYMNASTICS CLUB: BEST PLACE TO FLIP OUT

PHOTO BY BRITTANY M. POWELL

## CITY LIVING

CONT>>

response to the harassment, and is experiencing a rebirth these days as lowriding comes back into fashion. Nowadays, member clubs have five to 30 members of all genders and races. The only requirement

and entire rooms full of specimens hand-picked by members of the Society. Attendees can also take advantage of copious class offerings: ever wondered, for instance, about the best way to serve a black chanterelle? Take the mushroom cooking class. Best of all, you can find out what SFMS gets up to

off of. **American Gymnastics Club** has been molding San Francisco's Kylie Ross hopefuls into competitors for decades. Though simple somersault class is available for preschoolers, those with thighs of steel and grace to boot can sign up for the competitive program, where they can vie for college athletic scholarships and test their nerves at state championships. Visit its Judah location — an institution — or the newer Bayshore facility. Both offer ample classes for the little one, or, if you wanna hit the mat as well, tykes from 18 months to three years can bring in the 'rents for parent participation-friendly classes.

2520 Judah, SF. (415) 731-1400;  
390 Bayshore, SF. (415) 920-1704,  
[www.americangymnasticsclub.com](http://www.americangymnasticsclub.com)

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to join, says Hernandez, is a “finished, tight, ready-to-roll lowrider.” (415) 206-0577

### BEST MUSHROOMING POPULARITY

Enough tripping over yourself at music festivals — the best kind of festive fungi has to be that which is found at the ever-growing **SF Mycological Society's Fungus Fair**. Each December, Bay Area mycophiles meet up for a weekend (usually in Berkeley's Lawrence Hall of Science) to enjoy lectures, vendors selling mushroom-dyed sweaters,

during the rest of the year: San Francisco is home to the country's longest-running mycology programs (at SF State), and the Society hosts beginners' foraging hikes all throughout the year for the budding, mushroom-loving spore. [www.mssf.org](http://www.mssf.org)

### BEST PLACE TO FLIP OUT

It sits, waiting for the next young bendy soul: a vast, matted wonderland of balance beams, pommel horses, uneven bars, and gargantuan trampolines ready to be bounced upon and jackknifed

### BEST LABORATORY FOR MOLE-DING YOUNG MINDS

There's a frozen fox in the fridge, an assortment of snakes on the sideboard, and a hedgehog hunkered down in a little pen. There are gadgets whirring and vibrating, measuring the cacophony from a caboodle of broken-down instruments. There are pulleys and levers and bells and whistles and plenty of chemicals that make a good bang. And at the **Mission Science Workshop**, there's no slab coat required — just a healthy

CONTINUES ON PAGE 24 >>

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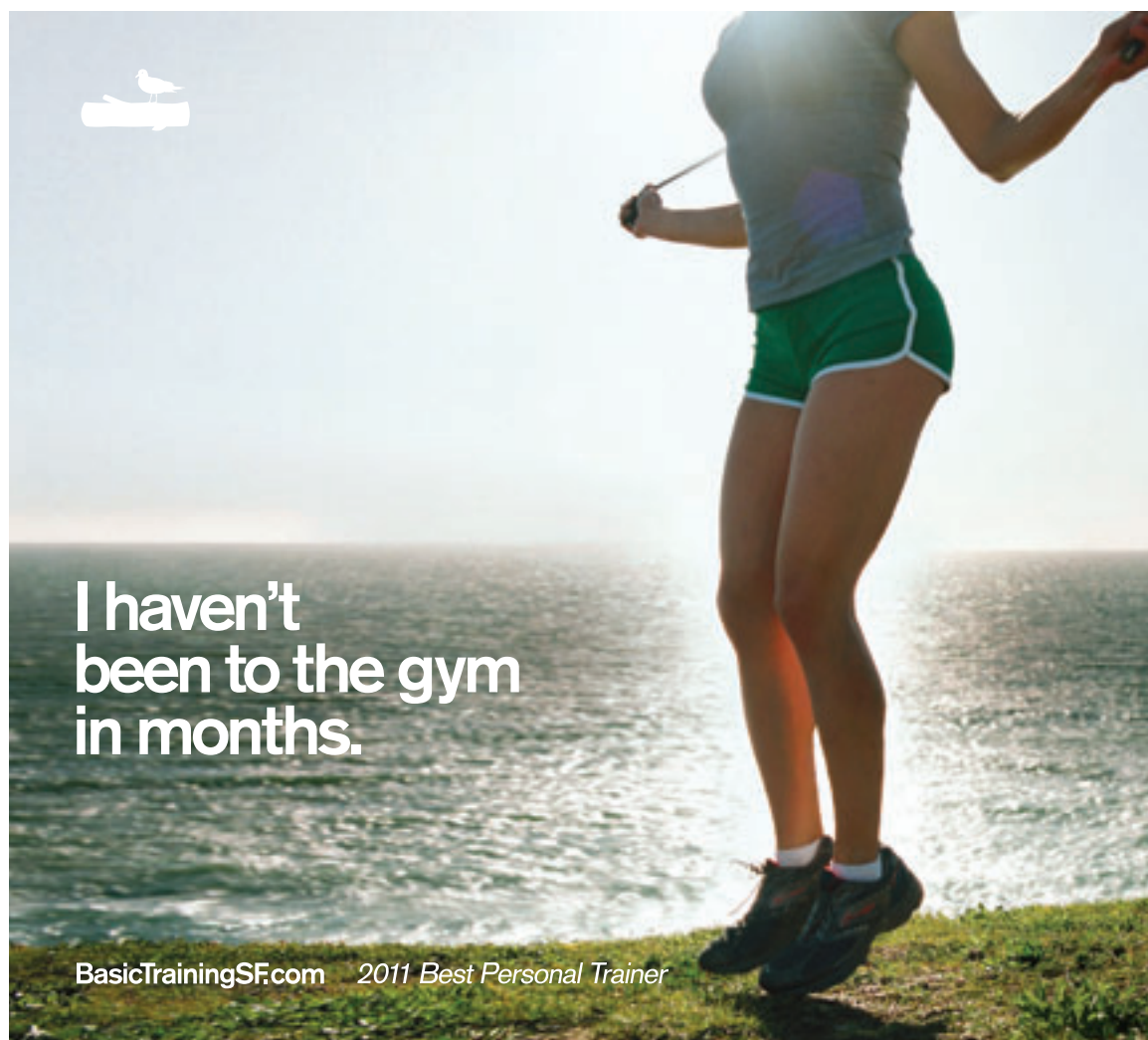


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PHIL MCGREW’S BAY BRIDGE LIGHTNING BOLT PHOTO: BEST ELECTROSTATIC MEME  
PHOTO BY PHIL MCGREW

## CITY LIVING

CONT>>

dose of curiosity. Founder Dan Sudran encourages kids of diverse backgrounds to squish, mold, spin, and explore — whether it’s making giant cardboard strands of DNA; playing with vacuums

services, accessories — and rotating art displays? One of the shop’s goals is to support its community, so it makes perfect sense to showcase the artwork of deserving friends for the tech-needy to peruse. If Best Buy makes you squirm and Geek Squad’s orange-and-blue offends your delicate aesthetic sensibilities,

out for the less tangible art of translation of, well, art — and its potential for cultural cross-pollination? In fact, that would be the **Center for the Art of Translation**. The non-profit organization won’t help your company make overseas business deals, but it will help broaden our cultural understanding through outreach, education, and public events. By helping to support translators, giving children tools for literacy and critical thinking, and hosting public talks, the Center makes our world a little smaller and a whole lot richer.

582 Market, SF. (415) 512-8824, [www.catranslation.org](http://www.catranslation.org)

## BEST NEW GROWTH FOR OLD ROOTS

There were the decadent early years as the apex of luxe accommodations for 1930s travelers, and there was the ignominious segregationist past. There were mid-century decades as a soppy, swinging, jazz, funk, and blues-infused cultural mecca, and there was the descent into disrepair and the tenure as over-crowded and under-loved SRO. From evictions to an ultimate rebirth, Oakland’s iconic **Hotel California** has weathered many seasons. Now a low-income housing development, the landmark boasts the Hotel California Garden, a thriving

CONTINUES ON PAGE 26 >>

## I LOVE WATCHING THE SHIPS PASS UNDER THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE AT CHINA BEACH WITH MY SON.

TODD, BERNAL HEIGHTS

and electromagnets; or assembling your very own vermin from individual containers filled with teeny-tiny pelvises, scapulae, and spines at the Build-a-Mole station — batteries not included. 3750 18th St., SF. (415) 621-1240, [www.missionsscienceworkshop.org](http://www.missionsscienceworkshop.org)

## BEST MOTHERBOARD MOTHERSHIP

Started by partners Azam Khan and Oliver Maddox last winter as part of the duo’s quest to offer fair rates on Apple and high-end PC repair, **Love Haight Computers** deals in new machines, plus customization, refurbishment, diagnostic

head to this Lower Haight comp store-art show. Bonus point: Khan is easily one of the most charismatic tech geeks we’ve met in ages, and he promises “not to rip you off.” 437A Haight, SF. (415) 799-4600, [www.lovehaightcomputers.com](http://www.lovehaightcomputers.com)

## BEST FOUND IN TRANSLATION

Though that old cautionary tale of the Chevy Nova selling badly in Spanish-speaking countries (Get it? *No va?*) is apocryphal, there is still plenty of research each year dedicated to the economic impacts associated with poor or culturally-insensitive translation. But who is watching



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A New Packaging And Method Of Donning A Condom Has Recently Been Developed And Patented In The United States. Condoms have been in use for more than 400 years with virtually no change in the method of putting a condom on. Until now, the rolled-up condom, that requires one to handle the condom and unroll it into place, has been the only available method of donning a condom. **YOU NEVER HAVE TO TOUCH THE CONDOM TO PUT IT ON**

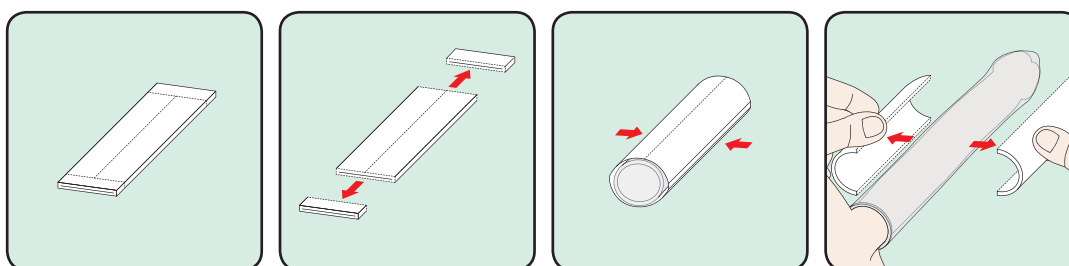
#### The old packaging method has the following negative factors:

1. The unrolling method results in contamination of the condom by whatever unwanted contaminants exist on the hands and surroundings of the individuals handling the condom.
2. The individuals handling the unrolling procedure are often turned-off by the process, especially when lubricants are present that are unpleasant to the touch or smell.
3. The time it takes to complete the donning process sometimes results in the loss of "the mood".
4. Some individuals, especially those with afflictions affecting the use of the hands and fingers, notably seniors (who have an alarming rate of sexually transmitted diseases), are sometimes unable to don the condom in that usual way.
5. The process for some seems too involved and a condom is therefore just not used.

#### These negative factors of the old condom design lead to the following unwanted results:

1. Less Use of condoms than if the negative factors did not exist.
2. Greater Risk of infection if the condom is used.
3. Much Greater Risk of infection and pregnancy if the condom is not used.
4. Increased Population.

OUR PATENTED CONDOM PACKAGING METHOD REDUCES OR ELIMINATES EACH OF THESE NEGATIVE FACTORS



#### This Is How It Works:

The condom is mostly flat (instead of rolled-up) in a rectangular package and, when you tear off both short ends of the package, and you squeeze the long sides of the package together, the opening into the condom at the one end of the package forms a circular opening and you then just slip the condom on and peel away the rest of the package from around the sides.

#### It Sounds Simple And Easy - And It Is!

Not only is it simple, fast and easy, but the packaging method also provides for other aspects to lessen the ability of the condom to accidentally slip off while in use. In addition, the packaging can be configured for any size or style of condom.

According to the United Nations Population Fund, an estimated 10.4 billion male condoms are used each year. Of these, approximately 4.4 billion are used for family planning and 6.0 billion for HIV prevention. It has been estimated that by 2015, nearly 18 billion condoms will be needed in low and middle-income countries. Simplifying the way a condom is donned in the manner of this new packaging design is certain to help increase the use of condoms in these countries and elsewhere.

#### THESE NEW CONDOM PACKAGING AND METHODOLOGY PATENTS ARE NOW BEING OFFERED FOR SALE

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Patent Nos. US 8,025,061 B2; US 7,802,575 B2



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## BEST OF THE BAY

### CITY LIVING

CONT>>

greenhouse enterprise and farm which, in partnership with the People's Grocery, sponsors programming and events, and acts as a hub for community building and gathering. The garden has supported the emergence of a resident's council, hosts volunteers for work days, and employs hotel residents to grow and tend edible plant starts which are sold at an affordable price throughout the larger community. Most definitely a spring-like awakening.

3501 San Pablo, Oakl. (510) 652-7607

### BEST SUPERFRIENDS

The "It Gets Better" campaign may get all a lot of press when it comes to encouraging queer

teens to hang in there in the face of bullying and fear, and not succumb to depression. But there's an amazing organization that, for the past 14 years, has been working to empower teens to make it better right now. (It even recently launched the Make It Better Project to directly involve teens in making schools

safer for LGBTQ peers.) The **Gay Straight Alliance Network** started in San Francisco and has grown into a hugely popular global entity, uniting queer and questioning teens and straight allies in the fight against homophobia through classroom interaction and school activities. Last year's Northern California GSA youth conference trained hundreds of young activists to help teachers comply with California's new FAIR Education act, which requires schools to include factual information about gay people in existing social studies lessons. These brave kids don't want to wait to move toward acceptance.

www.gsanetwork.org

### BEST FUTURE OF THE PRESS

This might get a little meta, so pull up a bar stool, grab a stiff drink, and bear with us. Better yet, let's go down to **Local Edition** bar, where the walls are adorned

with perfectly preserved newspapers from the great days of print journalism (ahem, not yet over by the way) and the cocktail menu, designed by Ian Scalzo of Bourbon and Branch, offers playful twists on classics any fedora-sporting muckraker worth her salt would be more than familiar with. Yes, in the plush, Art Deco-ish space you'll find displayed a copy of the Guardian's first issue from October 1966 and other legendary artifacts of historic Bay Area journalistic output, yellow or otherwise, plus a vintage typewriter or two. It's a dreamy wayback machine for romance-addled Lois Lanes and Clark Kents — and it all takes place in the basement that once housed

the Examiner's (and The Call's) printing press. There is nary an emoticon, comments section, or LOLcat in sight. If the future of print is leading to this sort of thing, we'll stick with ink and drink.

691 Market, SF. (415) 795-1375, www.localeditionsf.com



MONKEYFACE NEWS:  
BEST BAIT BLOG

### BEST PRAYER FOR UNITY

A sanctuary that offers religion to some and is open to all, **St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church** genuinely lives by JC's should-be trism, "there are no outcasts and all are welcome." Volunteers from the church's congregation manage the Cyprian's Arc community center, which opens its doors wide as a music venue and meeting space for neighbors of every age, belief system, and background. Local activists, like those from the sustainability-driven Wigg Party, organize workshops and events within the St. Cyprian's public areas. And the 89-year-old church's efforts at community building, such as a recent oral history project, remind Panhandle neighbors that even — perhaps especially — in a rapidly changing community, they are connected at the roots of the 'hood.

2097 Turk, SF. (415) 567-1855, www.saintcyprianssf.org **SFBG**



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# BEST OF THE BAY 2012: READERS POLL FOOD & DRINK

## BEST OVERALL RESTAURANT

NOPA  
560 Divisadero, SF.

## BEST NEW RESTAURANT (TIE)

AQ  
1085 Mission, SF.  
CENTRAL KITCHEN  
3000 20th St., SF.

## BEST BUDGET RESTAURANT

JAKE'S STEAKS  
3301 Buchanan, SF.

## BEST SPLURGE RESTAURANT

GARY DANKO  
821 North Point, SF.

## BEST LATE NIGHT RESTAURANT

NOPA  
560 Divisadero, SF.

## BEST ROMANTIC RESTAURANT

FOREIGN CINEMA  
2534 Mission, SF.

## BEST FOOD/DRINK FESTIVAL

NORTH BEACH FESTIVAL

## BEST FOOD CART

CHAIRMAN BAO

## BEST FARMERS MARKET

FERRY PLAZA FARMERS MARKET

## BEST PIZZA

LITTLE STAR PIZZA

## BEST SANDWICHES

IKE'S PLACE  
3489 16th St., SF.

## BEST BURRITOS

TAQUERIA CANCUN

## BEST BARBECUE

MEMPHIS MINNIE'S BARBECUE  
JOINT AND SMOKEHOUSE  
576 Haight, SF.

## BEST SUSHI

ICHI  
3369 Mission, SF.

## BEST BOWL OF NOODLES

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1790 Haight, SF.

## BEST SOUP

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## BEST SALADS

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WOODHOUSE FISH CO.

## BEST SOUL FOOD

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652 Polk, SF.

## BEST ITALIAN

DELFINA  
3621 18th St., SF.

## BEST MIDDLE EASTERN

LA MED

## BEST INDIAN

DOSA

## BEST MEXICAN

PUERTO ALLEGRE  
546 Valencia, SF.

## BEST CHINESE

MISSION CHINESE FOOD  
2234 Mission, SF.

## BEST THAI

OSHA

## BEST VEGETARIAN

GREENS  
Building A, Fort Mason, SF.

## BEST VEGAN

GRACIAS MADRE  
2211 Mission, SF.

## BEST BREAKFAST

DOTTIE'S  
28 Sixth St., SF.

## BEST BRUNCH

ZAZIE  
941 Cole, SF.

## BEST LUNCH

THE PORK STORE

## BEST APPETIZERS

CHA CHA CHA

## BEST DESSERT

TARTINE  
600 Guerrero, SF.

## BEST SERVICE

THE PORK STORE

## BEST FOOD WEBSITE

TABLEHOPPER  
www.tablehopper.com

## BEST CAFÉ

CAFÉ FLORE  
2298 Market, SF.

## BEST CUP OF COFFEE

PHILZ COFFEE

## BEST CUP OF TEA

SAMOVAR TEA LOUNGE

## BEST OVERALL BAR

HARLOT  
46 Minna, SF.

## BEST NEW BAR

MONARCH  
101 Sixth St., SF.

## BEST DIVE BAR (TIE)

THE KNOCKOUT  
3223 Mission, SF.

## EL RIO

3158 Mission, SF.

## BEST SWANKY BAR

BOURBON AND BRANCH  
501 Jones, SF.

## BEST SINGLES BAR

MADRONE ART BAR  
500 Divisadero, SF.

## BEST SPORTS BAR

KEZAR PUB  
770 Stanyan, SF.

## BEST HAPPY HOUR

IRON & GOLD  
3187 Mission, SF.

## BEST WINERY

V. SATTUI  
1111 White, Saint Helena.

## BEST WINE BAR

NOETECA  
1551 Dolores, SF.

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1705 Mariposa, SF.

## BEST SELECTION OF BEERS

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547 Haight, SF.

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ALEMBIC  
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## BEST BLOODY MARY

ZEITGEIST  
199 Valencia, SF.

## BEST BAR STAFF

DNA LOUNGE  
375 11th St., SF.

## BEST POT EDIBLES

VAPOR ROOM  
607 Haight, SF.

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DEVIL'S TEETH BAKING COMPANY  
3786 Noriega, SF.

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OLIVIER'S BUTCHERY  
1074 Illinois, SF.

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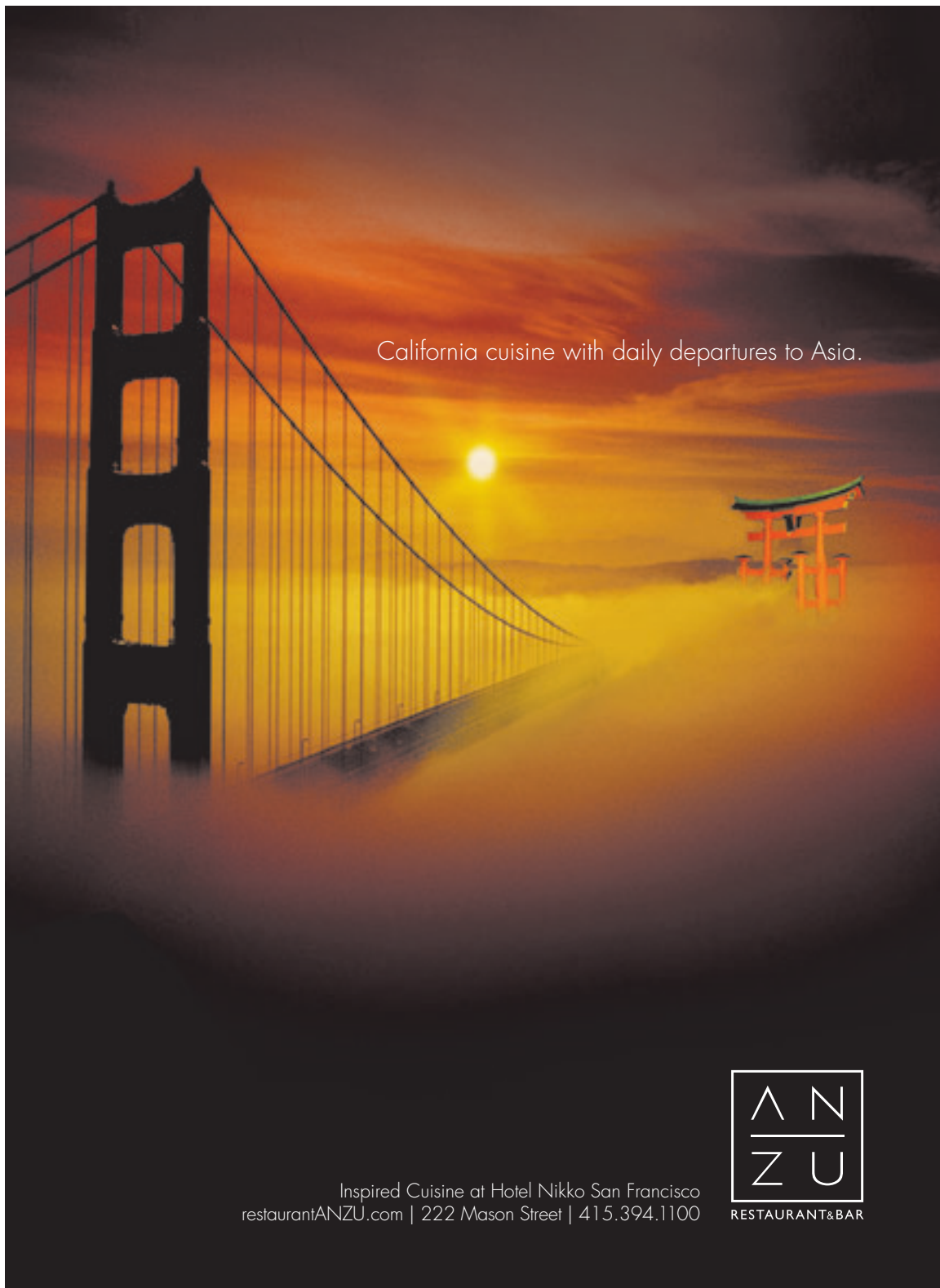




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**BEST OF THE BAY**

# FOOD & DRINK

• **EDITORS PICKS** •



WISE SONS: BEST BABKA, BUBBELEH

PHOTO BY BRITTANY M POWELL

## BEST COOKBOOK CHEFTIVIST

In this era of Paula Deen-Anthony Bourdain warfare and endless glossy spreads of chefs-cum-rockstars-without-the-rock, you are to be excused for not caring about yet another celebrity chef writeup. But stay your cleaver. Oakland's own **Bryant Terry** considers himself an activist who uses comestibles as a medium for social change, not TV dinner promotion. Terry's beautiful, seasonally sensitive vegan cookbooks — his latest is *The Inspired Vegan* (Da Capo Lifelong Books, \$19, 240pp) — contextualize recipes so that the connection between eating healthy and having healthy communities is clear. He also tours the country educating audiences about vegan lifestyle and cooking, with a focus on minority communities,

and makes no bones about the fact that he thinks families could stand to spend more time in the kitchen together.

www.bryant-terry.com

## BEST LOCAL UNION, PINT DIVISION

Visitors to the SF Beer Week opening gala might have been surprised to find that a sizable portion of the Concourse Exhibition Center was dedicated to beer brewed right here in the Bay Area. Our beloved Anchor Steam and 21st Amendment breweries are no longer the only sudsers in town — no, not by a long shot. This expansion in local brew is part of a national trend, but local leaps may be due, in part, to the efforts of the **SF Brewers Guild** — an association, born in 2004, of 10 of

CONTINUES ON PAGE 32 >>



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the city's best-loved new brewer-ies, including Magnolia Pub and Brewery and Thirsty Bear Brewing Company. In addition to Beer Week, the group organizes a "meet the brewers" event every month, an easy entry point for those who want to take their local beer boosting past six-pack status.

www.sfbrewersguild.org

### BEST LAING IN THE 'LOIN

Foodies know: if you want sit-down Filipino cuisine, head to Daly City for the densest concentration of deliciousness. Yet there's an outlier — a humble little Tenderloin hole-in-the-wall steadily serving the real deal. Family-run **Kusina Ni Tess** dishes out kare-kare, a peanut sauce-based Filipino stew; picadillo, a savory mélange of ground pork, carrot, potato, and green peas; and fish in tangy, sweet-sour broth. For breakfast, savor garlic fried rice with egg and your choice of meat: try Filipino corned beef or daing na bangus (butterflied, skin-on milk-fish). The staff will offer tastes to help you choose from the hearty, ultra-cheap menu — all dishes under \$9 — but don't miss the laing: taro leaves cooked in coconut milk and shrimp paste, tinged with subtle chile heat. Finish it all off with egg pie or young coconut pie. 237 Ellis, SF. (415) 351-1169

### BEST BABKA, BUBBELEH

Have you ever fantasized about eating a chocolate bar for breakfast and totally getting away with it? (Be honest now.) No need to slip a Snickers in your Corn Flakes — or even worry about dessert for a couple weeks — when you've got a huge, heavy, delicious babka from **Wise Sons** in your breadbox. Evan



### AQ: BEST NEW RESTAURANT (READERS POLL)

PHOTO BY GODOFREDO VASQUEZ/SF NEWSPAPER CO.

Bloom and Leo Beckerman's canny tribute to traditional Jewish food made the transition from popular pop-up brunch and Ferry Plaza Farmers Market stand to perhaps too-popular brick-and-mortar deli this year. The charming old-school atmosphere and menu filled with dishes like the mouth-watering chopped liver, the addictive pas-trami cheese fries, and the vibrant pickle plate are certainly worth the often considerable wait. But it's the formidable chocolate babka, made of scrumptious dark chocolate rib-boned through dense, cinnamon-flavored, brioche-like dough, that

really has us missing Grandma (although perhaps she wouldn't approve of such indulgence). 3150 24th St., SF. (415) 787-3354, www.wisesonsdeli.com

### BEST RIBS IN THE ROUGH

One need only scope the location of **Double D BBQ** next to the decidedly unlovely International Avenue to grok that the storefront incarnation of this former food truck is as unpretentious as it is under-hyped. Credit this food-first attitude to owner Duane Orr's blunt (but friendly) personality. Screw décor — his art is barbeque. Our favorite is his brisket sandwich: greasy,

fatty, saucy chunks of meat falling out of a soft roll. Double D's Texas-style red sauce, sold by the bottle, is sweet and tangy with a mild spice. Other menu highlights? Ribs and chicken grilled with a perfect hint of char, and creamy, peppery macaroni and cheese. Fair warning: we've begun to have severe Double D brisket cravings. A similar yen might lead you to a cavalier disregard for aesthetic niceties.

1240 First Ave., Oakl. (510) 228-7000, www.doubledbbq.net

### BEST VALUE-ADDED WAFFLE

Despite regulations handed down by the city's Medical Cannabis

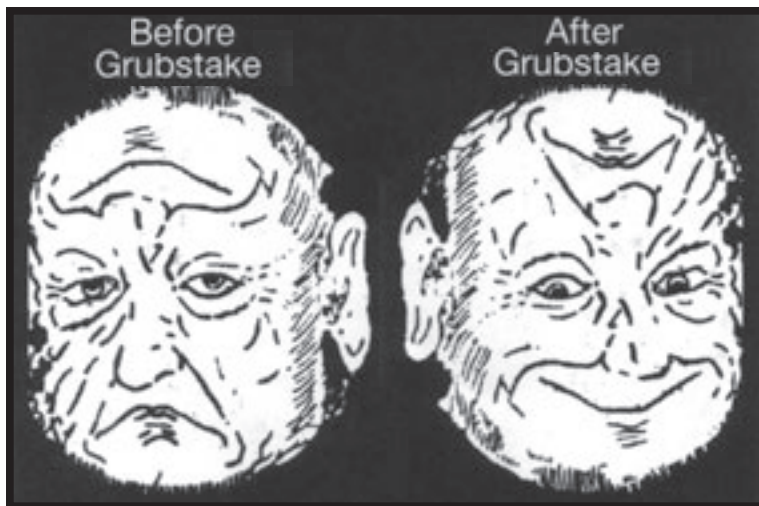
Task Force, which have eschewed food that can't be stored at room temperature and have made mandatory stringent labeling guidelines to prevent kiddos from getting caught up in too-cute pot food, Bay Area medicated food producers continue to innovate. See: various trail mixes, hard ginger and cinnamon-flavored candies, and high-class chocolate. But our favorite non-traditional cannabis food item isn't all that non-traditional ... in Amsterdam. **Canna Organics' Stroop Waffle** packs a punch at four doses per pair of flat waffle cones, stuck together by a chewy, sticky layer of caramel. It's like carnival food, but meant to take you on a journey to alleviate your aches and pains, neu-roses, and various other maladies.

Available at various Bay Area dispensaries

### BEST BREW-NOS AIRES

If you're looking for the perfect brew to pop into your Dolores Park-prepped picnic basket, look no further than the new-ish **Cevceria de Mateveza**, where Mateveza's signature ales, lagers, and IPAs brewed with that stimulating Argentinean beverage yerba mate await in a park-side brewpub location. There are ready-to-go bottles for the sunshine-inclined, but also perfect blends of stimulating mate and smooth-tasting hops on tap if you prefer to snag a pint — plus one of the joint's sweet or savory empanadas — and hang indoors. Just don't let the décor fool you; the picturesque shelves of Buenos Aires paraphernalia belie the fact that real porteños would never befoul their beloved tea with beer. Thanks goodness we're in San Francisco, where alternative couplings are a point of pride.

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## HODO SOY BEANERY: BEST TOFU SORCERERS

PHOTO BY ARIEL SOTO-SUVER

### BEST SPICY CRACKER

Noe Valley's new destination sushi bar **Saru** does an excellent job of revamping its closet-sized space, making it feel roomier, sleeker, and, thanks to large front windows and an elegant brown color scheme, altogether different from the previous two sushi spots occupying the same space. Any sushi bar serving "the lobster of prawns" — pristine, raw spot amaebi — is already savvy. In addition to the usual salmon and tuna offerings, adventurous eaters can try plenty of playful, unique bites prepared with care, including the wonderful "spicy cracker" — a crispy sheet of seaweed fried in tempura and topped with spicy tuna and avocado. Sushi nachos? Yes, please! Also neat: tasting spoons filled with vivid, raw fish, drizzled in elegant dressings like truffle oil. Snappy rolls satisfy while cheery service welcomes you back. 3856 24th St., SF. (415) 400-4510, [www.akaisarusf.com](http://www.akaisarusf.com)

### BEST SEASONAL SUDS

Don't scoff at fruit beer — at least not until you've tried a bottle from **Almanac Beer Co.** Jesse Friedman and Damian Fagan make but one kind of small-batch beer a season, testing and re-tasting until they've hit upon the perfect produce with which to pair their bottlings. But we're not talking coupling suggestions here. Almanac chooses an agricultural partner for each of its releases, adding to that beer's standard mash bright harvest flavors from places like Kingsburg's Hamada Farms, source of enviable citrus fruits, and Heirloom Organic Gardens, whose springtime fennel graces this year's earthy Bière de Mars. Each release is limited, stamped with an eye-catching label, and let to ferment a third time in the bottle itself, lending each sip a sprightly, effervescent fizz. [www.almanacbeer.com](http://www.almanacbeer.com)

## BEST OF THE BAY

### BEST ALL-AMERICAN CONFECTIONARY OVERLOAD

What's more American than apple pie? We're of the informal opinion that it's milkshakes, and no, we're not being paid by the American Dairy Association to say that. Imagine our glee, then, when the quietly unassuming Chile Pies opened up and — in addition to tasty treats such as empanada-like tamale hand pies and green chile pot pies with cheddar cheese crusts — an extravagant decadence known as **Chile Pies' pie milkshake** also made it onto the menu. That's right. It's pie. And milkshake. Any pie you want and any flavor of Three Twin's truly superior ice cream, served in a generous glass mug and topped with a billowing drift of whipped cream. Share it with a loved one to prevent instant coronary arrest, or live dangerously and gobble down a whole one yourself. You'll never look at pie à la mode with quite the same dotage, guaranteed.

601 Baker, SF. (415) 614-9411;  
314 Church, SF. (415) 431-9411,  
[www.chilepies.com](http://www.chilepies.com)

### BEST GEMÜTLICHKEIT

Mention **Speisekammer Restaurant** to islanders who know, and you'll get an instant flash of that *gemütlichkeit*, or cheery coziness, the spot is renown for. They'll bend your earbone raving about the dishes served up under the ownership of former Cafe du Nord honcho Cindy Johnson-Kohl: the succulent sauerbraten served with a side of red cabbage and spätzle, the cabbage rolls, the potato pancakes with house-made apple compote — or for the unrepentant carnivores in the fam, the *Gegrillte Fleischplatte*, a family-style grilled meat platter spilling over with sausages. It's the lip-smacking stuff of lieblich's dreams — and it's all begging to be washed down with a selection from the expansive drink list, and accompanied by live music from locals like the Frisky Frolics jazz cats, and Cali country outfit Kit and the Branded Men.

2424 Lincoln, Alameda. (510) 522-1300, [www.speisekammer.com](http://www.speisekammer.com)

### BEST IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS

Christine Doerr, the chocoholic force behind **Neo Cocoa**, makes truffles sans the outer hard chocolate shell. Why bother with an extra layer when you can go straight to the gooey ganache inside, capable of melting perfectly in your mouth? After all, isn't their filling the rea-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 34 >>

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son why we eat truffles in the first place? That was Doerr's thought, anyway, when she enrolled in La Cocina's food vendor incubator program. Now she has her own personal chocolate kitchen and her amazing, ridiculously decadent chocolates can be found all over the Bay Area. Warning to all Neo newbies: these truffles are dangerously addictive!

www.neococoa.com

### BEST CURD CRUSADER

Cheesemaking: the process sounds intimidating, but no matter how you slice it, it's all about caring for curds. You, the non-dairy-farming urban-dweller, can learn the mores involved in this delicate relationship via the **Milk Maid**, a.k.a. Louella Hill. Hill will let you taste some of the mind-blowing blue cheese she concocts in her home kitchen. But she doesn't really want to make cheese for you, though she could. Instead, she wants to empower you to make your own wedges and wheels. She imparts lessons in classrooms, at farmers markets, even at alt-hip bachelorette party tutorials. Having studied cheese-making from the Hudson Valley to Northern Italy's Emilia-Romagna region, the woman oozes sharp, smelly, and semi-soft expertise — you could do a lot worse than let her teach you to baby a blue.

www.sfmilkmaid.com

### BEST OLD SCHOOL PANINI

There are places in North Beach that are parodies of themselves: fake replicas of what someone from North Dakota might think a San Francisco Italian restaurant would look like. Too often, the meals these pretenders serve are a tepid farce. Not so with the **grilled mozzarella and tomato panini** from **Mario's Bohemian Cigar**



HEY COOKIE!: BEST REASON TO SCREAM IN DOLORES PARK

PHOTO BY GENE X. HWANG/ORANGE PHOTOGRAPHY

**Store Cafe.** The sandwich's authenticity mirrors that of the small, sometimes crowded restaurant and local hangout itself, which hasn't changed much in the three decades we've been going there. The menu is limited, but the food is excellent, featuring fresh ingredients simply prepared. Take the panini in question: eaten alongside a glass of red or Campari on the rocks, it makes a perfect SF lunch. A nice reminder that everything old and cool hasn't been priced out of town.

566 Columbus, SF. (415) 362-0536

### BEST TOFU SORCERERS

It's rare to taste a sliver of tofu fresh from the package that melts in your mouth. Blocks of the standard grocery-store variety are best used in sizzling cooked-up meals, sopping up sauce or marinade to provide any substantial taste. But not so the bricks from **Hodo Soy Beanery**, crafted in a cheery Oakland factory that offers weekly tours. No, this tofu is good enough to eat raw. Hodo, which opened its doors in 2004, even goes above and beyond its gleaming white

cubes of organic, non-GMO protein. The company sells the whole soy cow: soymilk, snack-friendly yuba strips, five-spice tofu nuggets, and lemongrass curry nuggets. Varieties are sold throughout Bay Area specialty food shops and farmers markets, but we highly recommend coming out to Hodo's factory, where you can couple your shopping with a tour of the factory floor.

2923 Adeline, Oakl. (510) 464-2977, www.hodosoy.com

### BEST SATISFYING READ

Directions for preparing a seaweed burger, mouth-watering ramen that doesn't come from a Styrofoam cup, and monkfish tripe have all found their way into the pages of local publisher McSweeney's sizzling new food quarterly **Lucky Peach**. Each volume, available in paper only, is comprised of more than 150 pages and contains recipes and writings that stimulate the intellect and taste buds simultaneously. Yummy examples of contributing foodies and writers: David Chang, Peter

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## BEST OF THE BAY

Meehan, Anthony Bourdain, Ruth Reichl, John T. Edge, Todd Kliman. The magazine's issues (there have been four so far) are brimming with personal essays, short stories, taste tests, interviews, and heaps of recipes. In a time when most magazines are scaling back, Lucky Peach offers a conspicuously fulfilling read.

www.mcsweeneys.net

heroic history, having left former Communist Yugoslavia for North America in 1962 and eventually founding Charbay with his family in 1983. Marko has been involved with the business since the ripe-old age of 10, growing up among St. Helena's vines. Charbay covers distilling, brewing, and winemaking: Miles' Old World aesthetic and

## EL MANSOUR MOROCCAN HAS SEEN ME THROUGH 31 GIRL-FRIENDS, COUNTLESS DATES, AND AT LEAST ONE 39TH BIRTHDAY. BEST ACE IN THE HOLE!

KARLYN, THE CASTRO

### BEST A LA CART

State Bird Provisions opened in late 2011, honoring Lower Fillmore's jazz spirit with inventive plates (a bargain at \$5-\$18 a dish) flowing from the kitchen like high-flying jazz riffs — with one major innovative twist. Most are presented dim sum-style, rolled through the pegboard-walled dining room on carts or offered on trays for your pick-and-choose pleasure. Dynamic husband-wife chef duo Stuart Brioza and Nicole Krasinski, formerly of Rubicon, change the menu constantly, transcending now-typical seasonality restraints to take flight with visionary flavor combinations and presentations. A helpful map of the nation's state birds adorns the restroom, but there's only one on the menu: the California quail, of course. Fried and crusted with pumpkin seeds; sided with a couple cart picks like eggplant "fries" with pimenton and charred wax beans with pickled-egg salad; and chased down with dreamy shots of peanut muscovado milk; it's a real plate-licker.

1529 Fillmore, SF. (415) 795-1273, www.statebirdsf.com

### BEST GENERATIONS OF DISTILLATION

It's a true family affair at Charbay Family Vineyard and Distillery, located in the wilds of Napa's Spring Mountain district, where father and son Miles and Marko Karakasevic distill together, while wives Susan and Jenni run the business with them. Descended from 13 distilling generations, Grand Master Distiller Miles has a

precision partnered with Marko's forward-thinking vision is apparent in everything from tequila and vodka to rum and port. Cases in point: Miles' elegant 27-year brandy and Marko's just-released, one-of-a-kind Bear Republic IPA and stout beer whiskies.

4001 Spring Mountain, St. Helena. (707) 963-9327, www.charbay.com

### BEST FRESH-SQUEEZED FLIGHTS

If founders Derek Castro and Luisa Alberto have anything to say about it, the juice bar is the wine bar of the future — and, given Castro and Alberto's Blue Bottle past, it's not surprising that they feel a fresh-squeezed swig can have all the body and depth of a finely prepared coffee. Pronounced "so," SÔW is their regular pop-up juice bar inside Pause Wine Bar, at which they hope to prove that juices deserve all the attention to nuance and provenance as their more fussed-over beverage cousins. Tastings are served at room temperature so as to not numb flavors, and in garnished glasses much like artful cocktails. Yes, flights are sometimes available, offering the chance to taste (and see) an entire rainbow of fascinating flavors; a recent one even featured Early Girl tomatoes. Currently only open weekends, the SÔWers hope to add weekdays with more tastings, an expanded menu, and an even bigger following of nectar connoisseurs.

Every Sat and Sun in Pause Wine Bar, 1666 Market, SF. (415) 637-7343, www.sowsf.com

CONTINUES ON PAGE 36 >>

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### BEST BACKROOM CHICKEN

Win ultimate cool points on a night in North Beach by taking your friends to **Chubby Noodle**, a wee Asian hideaway in the back of the shabby-classy Amante bar. Order at the back kitchen window — illuminated by a neon sign asking, “Hungry?” — then slide into roomy booths for Korean tacos, house kimchi, spicy garlic noodles, and Hawaiian poke. (Cheeky chef Peter Mrabe, also of hip taqueria Don Pisto’s, tosses steaming bowls of buttery grits into the menu mix, too.) The standouts, however, are heartwarming red miso ramen and — especially — organic buttermilk-brined fried chicken in generous five-piece wings or strips. It’s American fried chicken with Asian attitude, dipped in habit-forming, creamy sambal dipping sauce. And everything is under \$13. Skip Italian next time you’re in North Beach and opt for something a bit more adventurous and a bit more, er, chubby.

570 Green St., SF. (415) 361-8850, [www.thechubbynoodle.com](http://www.thechubbynoodle.com)

### BEST SIX-WAY STIMULANT

We said it when this hot spot opened in 2010, and we’ll say it again: the coffee preparation at **Ma’velous** ranks among the best you’ll find anywhere. Coffee geeks are stoked that here you can have your coffee prepared six different ways, via Chemex extraction, Kyoto slow-drip, Siphon machine, French press, Hario V60 drip, or Ma’velous’s own unique espresso machine. Owner Phillip Ma rotates bean selections from around the world: roasters include Verve, Intelligentsia, and Norway’s Tim Wendelboe. Another uniquely Ma’velous feature is the cafe’s artistic eco-design by Adeeni Design Group: retro-modern reclaimed furniture, sophisticated graffiti from street artist Eddie Colla, and pressed tin ceilings. Bonus points for remaining a WiFi-free respite where the menu of supreme espressos — paired with a good book — makes the coffee ritual a luxurious experience rather than a utilitarian necessity.

1408 Market, SF. (415) 626-8884 [www.maveloussf.com](http://www.maveloussf.com)

### BEST BOWLING IN THE GUTTER, BUT EATING WITH THE STARS

The new **Mission Bowling Club** is one badass bowling alley. There’s no funky smell or dated dinginess (charming for some, we know) in this open and industrial space, which boasts a large front patio, a bar area, and two dining areas — both downstairs near its six lanes and upstairs overseeing all the striking action. With its retro-

that Mission Chinese Food and Mission Street Food wunderkind, Anthony Myint. Cheer on bowlers from comfy couches while sipping a dreamy cocktail, or pick up that spare accompanied by a plate of ratatouille, some crisp pork belly, a beloved Mission burger — or its worthy vegan kale-and-chickpea alternative.

3176 17th St., SF. (415) 863-2695, [www.missionbowlingclub.com](http://www.missionbowlingclub.com)

**“BARBIE HAS CULTIVATED A CHEERS-TYPE ATMOSPHERE AT THE BELL TOWER ON NOB HILL. A SUNNY DAY WITH MIMOSAS CAN’T BE BEAT.”**

KEVIN, THE SUNSET

fetish crowd and quirky flourishes, you could dismiss the whole thing as Mission hipster — but never has bowling food been taken to such gourmet heights. The menu was designed by none other than

### BEST PEANUT BUTTER CLOUDS

Despite our American love for all things soft, saccharine, and somehow edible, vegans and equinophiles alike are saddened by the innocuous-seeming marshmal-

low, which often includes gelatin derived from horse hooves and other slaughterhouse scraps. But worry not, sweet things, **Benkyodo Company** has treats that top the standby campfire comfort. Namely, mochi, a Japanese delight made of glutinous rice that is pounded and molded into sweet submission. Soft clouds of heaven — and they come in a variety of flavors like strawberry, green tea, mugwort, adzuki, and, wow, peanut butter. Benkyodo’s mochi has the texture of your favorite childhood sweet, with the flavors — and food justice acumen — of a grown-up gourmand.

1747 Buchanan, SF. (415) 922-1244, [www.benkyodocompany.com](http://www.benkyodocompany.com)

### BEST VEGAN ROLL CALL

The 100 percent vegan cinnamon rolls at **Cinnaholic**, the Berkeley sweet tooth haven, are naturally sweetened with beet sugar, endowed with far-out flavors like blueberry pie and Oreo explosion, and custom-ready. Just let the sugary staff know what kind of frosting and toppings — strawberry shortcake roll? Maybe a drizzle of mocha and almonds? — light your oven. And just like that irritatingly talented, socially

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**SIGHTGLASS COFFEE: BEST FULL-SCOPE ROAST**

PHOTO BY BRITTANY M. POWELL

conscious friend whose Facebook page makes your own video links and witty one-liners look frivolous, owner Shannon Michelle has made Cinnaholic's blog a community resource. The website is great for updates on local animal rescue events, and its pretty photos of waiting rolls serve as a delicious testament to the fact that eating vegan doesn't have to mean going home with sub-par pastry.

2132 Oxford, Berk. (510) 647-8684, [www.cinnaholic.com](http://www.cinnaholic.com)

#### BEST KIND OF STRICT

If things have been rough on your soul lately, forget the prose of that insipid, chicken-related book series and turn your page to **Israel's Strictly Kosher's matzo ball soup**. While other deli's versions are salty, one-dimensional facsimiles of a real pick-me-up, the version at Israel's, which also does strictly Kosher catering, is home made by co-owner Faina Avrutina with savory broth to

comfort you on windy days and massive matzo balls that'll fill you up just enough to not get blown sideways by gusts of outrageous fortune (throw in one of the excellent sufaniyots and you'll be even more ground-bound). And it's not just the eating that'll do you good — a genuinely kind staff soothes city-weary troubled minds and will make you feel like you just dipped into your parents' cozy kitchen.

5621 Geary, SF. (415) 752-3064, [www.israelkosher.com](http://www.israelkosher.com)

#### BEST FULL-SCOPE ROAST

The smoky dark brew served up by the folks at **Sightglass Coffee** certainly isn't indicative of the sibling-owned roastery and cafe's mission of transparency. Brothers Jerad and Justin Morrison started their SoMa enterprise aiming to treat the cup of coffee less as a product than a democratic sensory experience — an intuition, a smell, a sound, a sight. Thus, the name of their cav-

ernous new shop, which roasts and brews in a single warehouse space that has proven popular among the hip-pretty techies (almost as hip-pretty as the Sightglass staff that serves them) who roost in the area. Using small-production methods to ensure freshness and authenticity, Sightglass provides a unique place that's simultaneously homey (baristas are quick to introduce themselves) and airily trendy.

270 Seventh St., SF. (415) 861-1313, [www.sightglasscoffee.com](http://www.sightglasscoffee.com)

#### BEST REASON TO SCREAM IN DOLORES PARK

Have you ever been reclining in Dolores Park, wiping off the burgundy mustache left by your third bottle of wine, when the thought hits: someone chipper, dressed in a vintage Alpine peasant dress, presenting you with a tray of succulent sweets, would just hit the spot? Question number two: has the dreary gray wallpaper of your office ever begged the same dose of sugary sunshine? Christa Hill's dessert catering company **Hey, Cookie!**, then, is the stuff of your dreams. Offering everything from vegan Mexican wedding cookies and oatmeal butterscotch chip cookies to fudge brownies and rice crispy treats, it's clear that the biggest draw of Hey Cookie! isn't its dirndls. Unofficially coined the Cookie Girl, Hill epitomizes service with a smile, and her staff follows suit, so feel free to shout them out at your next Dolo hill sit.

(415) 999-0205, [www.twitter.com/heycookiesf](http://www.twitter.com/heycookiesf)

#### BEST GOURGÈRES

We don't know what makes the clutch of cafes around Church and Market in SF so inviting — OK, we do: great service, good coffee, and a laidback, no-hurries vibe — but we find ourselves drawn here more often than not on those precious early mornings off. French bakery **Thorough Bread and Pastry** is one of those cafes, and although the punny name evinces a slight groan, the très magnifique selection of authentic French pastries keeps us coming back for more. There are flaky croissants, of course, and fruit-laden tarts, dense and drenched baba au rhum and mint-kicky grasshopper cakes, wee sugar-dusted chouquettes and almond-brown butter financiers. And could anything be more perfect on a foggy morning than a small bag full of fresh-out-the-oven gougères? The original cheesy puffs, these

CONTINUES ON PAGE 38 >>

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248 Church, SF.  
(415) 558-0690,  
[www.thoroughbreadpastry.com](http://www.thoroughbreadpastry.com)

### BEST CAN-ARCHY

When it comes to the latest trends in pickling, canning, jarring, putting up, putting by, or just plain

preserving, we've got a dirty little secret: everything we know about Mason jar-ology comes from the amazing **Punk Domestics**. Food and travel blogger Sean Timberlake, with support from his husband Paul Brown and terrier Reese, took inspiration from canning expert and former Guardian writer Karen Solomon — particularly a review of one of her books that mentioned the “punk domesticity of the hipster DIY movement” — to launch a content aggregation site for can-atics of everything dried, cured, or otherwise preserved. It's jam-packed with links to community-posted articles with helpful hints and innovative techniques from around the Web, plus heads-ups on events, giveaways, recipes, and book releases. Ever

wonder about micro-farming, curing meats, making cheese, or pickling duck eggs? No need to keep a lid on it when the Punk Domestics are in the house.

[www.punkdomestics.com](http://www.punkdomestics.com)

### BEST MARMALADY

Who wouldn't want all the colorful bounty of the Bay Area served up on a nice piece of toast (preferably sourdough, in our case)? Meyer lemon, Santa Rosa plum, pear, apple, mild pepper, lime, nectarine, grape ... these fruits (plus pineapple, kiwi, rose petal, lavender, and blueberry) are gathered from backyards and garden plots by the ever-foraging **Aunt Kitty**, a.k.a. Kitty Myers of San Francisco's Sunset District, and transformed into the most spectacular jellies imaginable. The secret is not simply organic; it also lies in the unique combination of two or

three parts fruit to one part sugar, allowing a lush effulgence of natural flavor. Besides delicious marmalades packaged in distinctive little Mason jars and sold in local cafes and grocery stores, Kitty's

the yelping soccer children and sunbathing elders of Parque de los Ninos Unidos. Did that Mission ever exist? Or are we thinking of paradise?

1198 Treat, SF. (415) 824-2535



## DEVIL'S TEETH BAKERY'S CARROT CAKE MAKES MY HEART SING. TRULY.

KEVIN, THE SUNSET



homegrown company, Aunt Kitty's Kreations, also supplies apple and mango chutney, piccalilli and cranberry-orange relish, and even fudge. According to legend, many of Aunt Kitty's products were actually developed in her church's basement — maybe that's where the wholesome flavor comes from?

[www.auntkittyskreations.com](http://www.auntkittyskreations.com)

### BEST PUPUSA PARADISE

If you were to describe Mission establishments by historical eras, **El Paraiso Cafe** would be decidedly Post-German working class, Pre-Valencia Street \$200 cork wedges. Its menu bears the marks of a business whose customer base does not guide its brunch-seeking steps toward outrageously pricey gluten-free breakfast plates. Rather, El Paraiso is perfect for that Mission dream of a neighborhood half-full of families and transplants from all over the world and half-full of broke boho Americans — OK, and those who are a mix of the two — who flock toward piping hot pupusas accompanied by free, generous bowls of curtido (piquant, fresh coleslaw) and thin red salsa. And it's all parked kitty-corner to

### BEST SECRET WORLD OF CHEESE

Be not fooled by **Gourmet & More's** small size. This long, skinny Hayes Valley specialty shop, owned by French-born longtime Bay Area residents Laurent and Josiane Recollon, is bursting at the shelves with all manner of goodies for the gourmand. Foie gras has flown the coop, but there's an array of tasty imported meats (prosciutto, salami, chorizo), breads, sweets (no such thing as “too many macarons”), fancy mustards and oils, and made-to-order sandwiches (to-go, or to eat on Gourmet & More's back patio). But the best part, bien sûr, is the climate-controlled shoplet tucked away at the back, stuffed with more than 300 kinds of cheese. Customers are encouraged to sample before they buy (any wonder that there's sometimes a line to get in there?). We repeat: cheese room. Who needs Paris?

141 Gough, SF. (415) 874-9133

### BEST POP-UP RIVER OF LIQUOR

The Bon Vivants cocktail crew — Scott Baird, Josh Harris, Jason Henton — is a local treasure,



JOSEY BAKER BREAD: BEST BRIGHT-EYED BREAD GUY

PHOTO BY RAFI AJI

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## MISSION BOWLING CLUB: BEST BOWLING IN THE GUTTER, BUT EATING WITH THE STARS

PHOTO BY BRITTANY M. POWELL

throwing some of the coolest, most innovative parties around. They've also created winning cocktail menus, like the one at Berkeley's new Comal, while working on their long-awaited Mission bar Trick Dog. But till then, tipsy transients can catch them at their more fleeting establishment, the **Rio Grande Bar**. What started as part of A Temporary Offering — the intriguing rotating pop-up project that inhabits the entire ground floor of the Renoir Hotel — may soon (we hope) become a permanent destination. Or it could morph into roving gypsy bar. Evoking a funky border-town roadhouse as Quentin Tarantino might interpret it, the bar is already a cute-kitschy go-to for cocktailers in the know. There, tequila, mezcal, whiskey, and beer (in cans) flow. No drink menu is needed: talented bar staff create bracing beverages based on your mood. Or simply opt for a Dos Equis while grooving to live bands on the mini stage, beneath shrines to 1970s adult film star Vanessa del Rio and the Virgin of Guadalupe.

1108 Market, SF. [www.bonvivants-sf.com](http://www.bonvivants-sf.com)

## BEST CLAWS FOR CELEBRATION

It is ridiculous that we are about to register a wee bit of complaint regarding the Bay's incredible surplus of native seafood — we could happily live on Tomales Bay oysters, Dungeness crab, and all those other tasty species one finds stewing in our hot pots of cioppino. And yet ... we do miss a nice fresh lobster to go with our bubbly on special occasions, or some genuine surf to pair with our turf when we're feeling old-school romantic-fancy. That's when we head to our secret Maine-line to East Coast crustacean bliss, **New England Lobster Company**, which offers not just succulent, flown-in pinchers both live and frozen, but steamers, scallops, mussels, clams, and many other treasures of the briny deep. And hey, what do you know, you can score some good ol' Dungeness here, too. Don't miss the super-delish lobster rolls from the lunchtime food truck in the parking lot, either. (Motto: "We're on a roll!" LOL.) Time to get cracking.

170 Mitchell Ave., (650) 873-9000, [www.newenglandlobster.net](http://www.newenglandlobster.net)

## BEST BRIGHT-EYED BREAD GUY

Here's how Vermont-bred Josey Baker launched **Josey Baker Bread**: he walked into Mission Pie and asked (sweetly) if he might borrow some oven space. The neighborhood bake shop obliged, and to no one's surprise (the alluring qualities of handsome men and fresh-baked bread being what they are) Baker's business took off, delighting subscribers to his poppy, walnut, and black pepper parmesan loaves — delivered weekly to your door! — and walk-in customers alike. On some days he has even given away bread on a by-donation basis; we've seen it. Now he's set to open his own bakery in partnership with Four Barrel on Divisadero. His fans may be excited by swirling rumors of a toast bar, but for us it would be enough to just see that smile again. He may not be oblivious to his own charms; his website recommends that you write him a love letter. Josey, does this count?

736 Divisadero, SF.  
[joseybakerbread.wordpress.com](http://joseybakerbread.wordpress.com)

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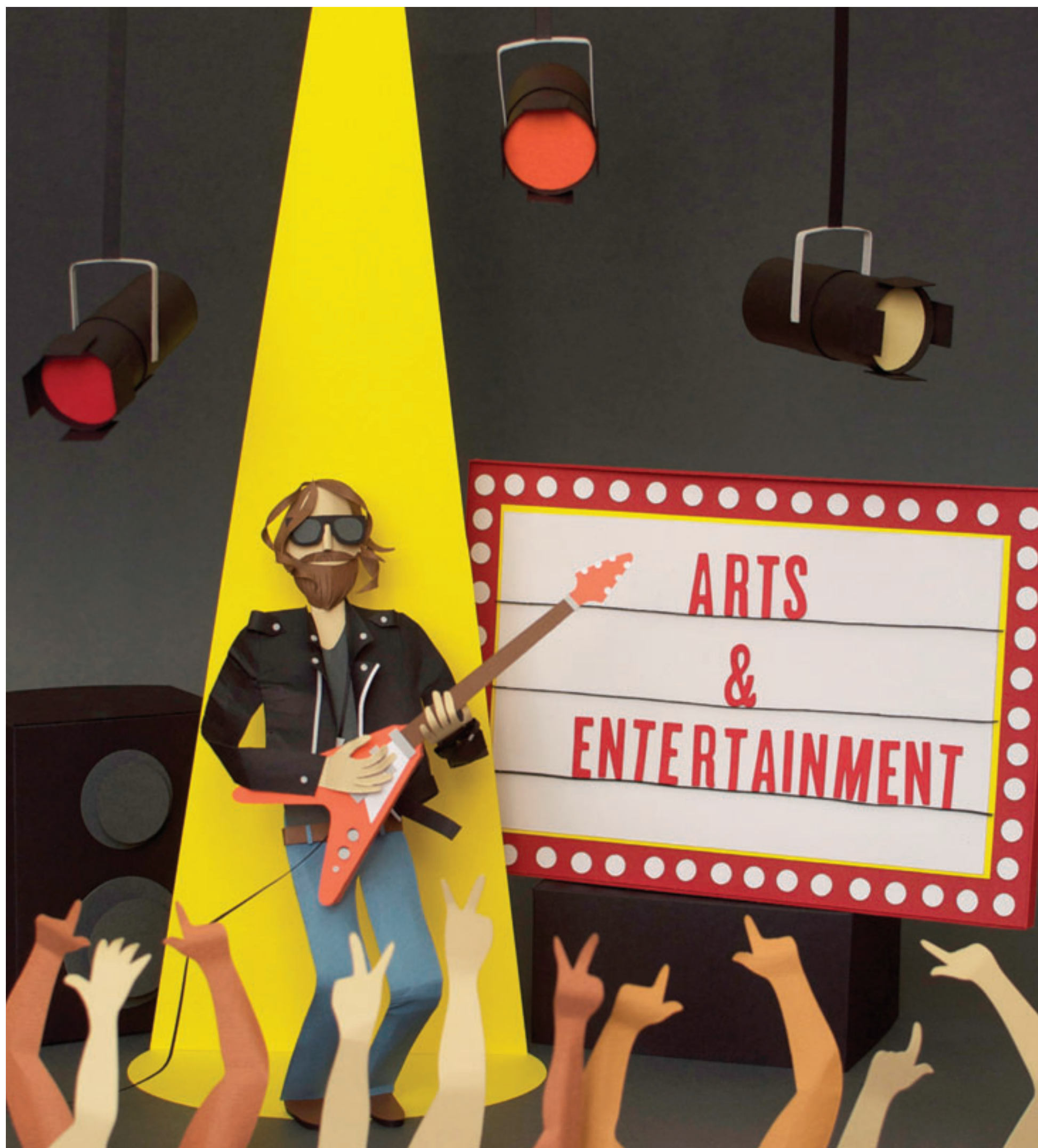
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www.strongentertainment.com

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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**BEN VENOM: BEST HEAVY METAL STITCH WIZARD**  
PHOTO BY BRITTANY M. POWELL

### BEST HEAVY METAL STITCH WIZARD

He's the mustachioed maniac who wields a sewing machine and an endless array of heavy metal T-shirts, creating quilts depicting claw-bearing beasts, horned skulls, and other images that wouldn't be out of place on an Iron Maiden stage backdrop. **Ben Venom** (née Baumgartner), whose MFA from the San Francisco Art Institute definitely didn't include quilting, is self-taught when it comes to pieces like his massive quilt, "See You On the Other Side," featured in Yerba Buena Center for the Arts' prestigious Bay Area Now 6 exhibition. He also presented work in "You Should Be Living," a display of metal-inspired pieces at the Wolverhampton Art Gallery in Birmingham, England (homeland of Black Sabbath, Led Zeppelin, Judas Priest, and Napalm Death). Venom has even whipped up a baby quilt for an infant who'll grow to have a unique appreciation for Metallica and the Scorpions.

www.benvenom.com

### BEST OPEN SOURCE UTOPIA

"We're giving tax breaks to companies that allow people to meet in a virtual space," Erick Lyle told the Guardian prior to the opening night of **Streetopia**, a multidisciplinary, utopian community art festival that he, Kal Spelletich, and Chris Johanson curated. "But this event will really show the vibrancy that is right here." In the battle to keep the second tech bubble from edging everyone else out of the city, Streetopia was proactive, asking its participants not for dire predictions, but to share images of what their utopian SF would look like. For more than a month, there were classes on civilian investigative reporting taught by working journalists, dance performances in the street, shared meals in the Tenderloin National Forest, art in empty storefronts, and much more — proof positive that a San Francisco which doesn't require stock options of its inhabitants is still very much thinkable and alive.

www.streetopiasf.com

CONTINUES ON PAGE 44 >>





Cindy Sherman creates provocative artworks that explore wide-ranging issues of identity and representation—with the artist serving as photographer, model, makeup artist, and set designer. This first major exhibition of Sherman's art ever presented in San Francisco features more than 150 photographs by one of the most influential artists of our time.

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This exhibition is organized by The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Major support for the San Francisco presentation is provided by the Fisher family, J.P. Morgan, and The Bernard Osher Foundation.

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Cindy Sherman, Untitled #193 (detail), 1989; Courtesy the artist and Metro Pictures, New York; © 2012 Cindy Sherman



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BEST OF  
THE BAY



BHANGRA EMPIRE: BEST DANCE DOMINATION  
COURTESY OF BHANGRA EMPIRE

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CONT>>

#### BEST REASON TO DOWNLOAD THE WHOLE ALBUM

In the age of downloadable singles and quick-click clips, **UnderCover Presents'** series of one-whole-album-with-one-live-show pairings values the full record experience. The quarterly event is an inspired mashup comprised almost entirely of Bay Area-based musicians, with each band performing just one reinterpreted song off a classic album. Thus far, there have been shows at Coda (now Brick and Mortar Music Hall),

#### BEST MOVIE THEATER IN WHICH TO LOSE YOUR MIND

“A place beyond time, beyond space to experience movies, drinks, and cosmic reverberations.” We know this is Best of the Bay, but the **Vortex Room** is a contender for Best of the Galaxy. A website, a lounge, a retro-flavored rip in the space-time continuum? Yep, it is all of the above. Host-with-the-most Scott Moffett draws from in-house Cosmic Hex Archive, which includes an online library of delicious, nearly-forgotten sleaze and genre gems (just a taste: 1976's *Soul Hustler*, a.k.a. *The Day the Lord Got Busted*). Most films cost

and dedicated artists who preserve a lively tradition with the concentration of tigers on the prowl — but who aren't afraid to dress up in outrageous costumes and reenact hilarious Bollywood movie sequences. Behold, **Bhangra Empire**, a dazzling entity of interlocking steps and poised limbs that performs contemporary variations on bhangra, the Punjabi harvest dance that was transformed in underground clubs in 1980s London into a vital global art form. The Bay Area, with its huge Indian population and many fans of all things subcontinental, has embraced bhangra wholeheartedly, and the Bhangra Empire troupe — our hometown representative at national bhangra dance competitions (and even at the White House) — helps keeps us all on our toes.

www.bhangraempire.com

#### BEST FEMINIST RECORDING STUDIO

Ladies in the music biz deserve to be heard — weirdly, that still needs to be reiterated in 2012 — and **Women's Audio Mission** is helping them get loud. The nonprofit is staunchly dedicated to “the advancement of women in music production and the recording arts.” As it notes, this is a field where women are chronically under-represented. WAM hires teachers for recording classes and has its own in-house studio, which means affordable recording time for budding female artists. Last year, the truly exciting local all-girl teenage rock ‘n’ roll band the She's recorded their debut album at WAM, and

CONTINUES ON PAGE 46 >>

## THE ETHNIC DANCE FESTIVAL EMBODIES ALL OF WHAT'S BEST OF THE BAY AREA: TALENT, PASSION, AND LOCAL LOVE.

DAVID, SOMA

Public Works, Rickshaw Stop, and the Independent; full nights spent luxuriating in every crevice and groove of the Velvet Underground's *Velvet Underground and Nico*, the Pixie's *Doolittle*, Nick Drake's *Pink Moon*, and Black Sabbath's *Paranoid*. To complete the sparkling tribute experience, a pre-recorded album of all the covers is doled out at each performance, to be played in its entirety beyond those singular shows.

www.undercoverpresents.com

\$3.95 to download, but are even cheaper if you become a member. For maximum magick, get thee to one of the Vortex Room's cult-film double-features, which start up again, weekly, in August. 1082 Howard, SF. www.cosmichex.com

#### BEST DANCE DOMINATION

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## BEST OF THE BAY

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CONT>>

this year the band is gaining some serious traction with radio spots. Ever grateful, the quartet behind the She's credits WAM with realizing their dream (aww). Other clients include Making Dinner and Brazil's Constantina. Here's to a female future of recorded sound.  
1890 Bryant, Suite 312, SF. (415) 558-9200. [www.womensaudiomission.org](http://www.womensaudiomission.org)

### BEST AMATEUR WRESTLING HOT DAMN

After a wild first couple of years, Oakland's premiere way-amateur wrestling night, **Hoodslam**, is still flexing its muscles once a month — these days at the Oakland Metro Operahouse. Full of soap opera-worthy subplots, grudge matches, awesome costumes, awesome-er characters, a noisy metal house band, burlesque interludes, giant plushy referees, and oh, even some wrestling, Hoodslam's signature mayhem makes us downright giddy on so many levels. Whether we're watching a pair of zombie fighters body-slam each other into the ropes, a bondage gear-wearing gimp get tossed over them, a mafia mob throw fedoras into the ring, or a squadron of burly stoners mop it up with whoever their hapless opponents of the moment might be, we're right there with them, climbing the ladder, and getting higher. Fuck the fans!

Oakland Metro Operahouse,  
630 Third St., Oakl. (510) 763-1146,  
[www.oaklandmetro.org](http://www.oaklandmetro.org)

### BEST YOUNG ADULT HIP-HOP MISCHIEF

It is no small feat to write about suburban kids loving hip-hop without coming across as condescending or a-historic, but somehow a free styling Minnesota-bred woman managed it. San Francisco-based author Laura Goode triumphed with ***Sister Mischief*** (Candlewick, \$16.99, 367pp), a young adult novel about a gang of outsider girl friends who take

### BEST GRAPHIC OCCUPATION

Graphic journalism isn't really new, though given the reluctance some people have in acknowledging its legitimacy, you'd be forgiven for thinking it's a more fringe concept than it actually is. Bay Areans are blessed with a wealth of these non-traditional journo's, who document everything from a day in the life of a Mission District bartender to the gritty realities of an afternoon on Sixth Street.

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JANINE, ROCKRIDGE

on the powers of conformity at their whitebread, fundamentalist-controlled high school by forming a queer-straight hip-hop alliance (and performing their feminist lyrics for unwitting audiences). The book is hardly preachy, but does include teenage conversations about race, cultural co-optation, and sexuality — along with a scene that pretty well teaches you how to smoke weed — and is flush with curiosity, radicalism, and outright guffaws.

[www.lauragoode.com](http://www.lauragoode.com)

**Susie Cagle's** in-depth coverage of Occupy, for instance, has kept our eyeballs glued to our computer screens and Twitter feeds pretty much since the movement's inception. Sharp, savvy, unsentimental, and blessed with an expressive pen and a keen ear, Cagle illustrates her eyewitness accounts of encampments, raids, building occupations, marches, and more with images that cut straight to the human core of the stories she gathers.

[www.thisiswhatconcernsme.com](http://www.thisiswhatconcernsme.com)

CONTINUES ON PAGE 48 >>



WOMEN'S AUDIO MISSION: BEST FEMINIST RECORDING STUDIO COURTESY OF WOMEN'S AUDIO MISSION



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## BEST OF THE BAY



HOODSLAM: BEST AMATEUR WRESTLING HOT DAMN PHOTO BY GABRIEL HURLEY

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CONT>>

#### BEST GRAND DAME MAKEOVER

Culminating in a grand reopening in 2009 after 43 years of dereliction, the revitalization of **Fox Theatre** should serve as a model for all of the Bay Area's beautiful rundown old movie houses. As befitting a building owned by the City of Oakland and listed on

point when one is surrounded by such architectural beauty.

1807 Telegraph, Oakl. (510) 302-2250, [www.thefoxoakland.com](http://www.thefoxoakland.com)

#### BEST EDIBLE PLAYLIST

We've heard the phrase "chefs are the new rock stars" enough to make us (s)cream. **Turntable Kitchen** both embodies this sentiment and finely chops it to pieces. Husband and wife duo Kasey and Matthew put together the website, with

the mood of the meal inside. [www.turntablekitchen.com](http://www.turntablekitchen.com)

#### BEST ART PARKING

On an otherwise nondescript block in SoMa, there is a door painted come-hither red. Don't be shy, grab that knob! Inside you'll find God knows what: dance, theater, performance art — it's something different almost every night. And as bonus, if you come away confused or disgusted from this churning artists' incubator, you're only out a few bucks. **The Garage** has been around since Joe Landini opened shop in a storefront around the corner from his current location. Landini's mission was to create a safe house for artists, a place to try anything. It has made the venue, with its programming, residencies, and workshop performances, appealing to local art-makers and adventurous audiences alike.

715 Bryant, SF. (415) 518-1517, [www.975howard.com](http://www.975howard.com)

#### BEST FRESH TROUT

Recent SFSU Theatre Arts grad **Megan Trout** might be relatively new to the Bay theater scene, but we've had our eyes on this rising young star since she burst out with the 11th Hour Ensemble's first devised-theater piece *Alice* in 2010. Fearless, versatile, and dynamic, endowed with crack comic timing and equally enviable dramatic chops, Trout has swum in the weird and wonderful waters of the Aurora Theatre's *Metamorphosis*, Symmetry Theatre Company's

CONTINUES ON PAGE 50 >>

## NOISEBRIDGE IS WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF A PUBLIC LIBRARY HAD NOISY SEX WITH A TOOL SHED.

ADAM FLYNN, MISSION

the National Registry of Historic Places, the \$73 million renovation was done with an eye for detail. Myriad are the Fox's charms: its grand old marquee; its cross-legged statues flanking the stage, regarding the audience with glowing green eyes; the ornately molded ceiling, mosaic walls, and exceptional acoustics. The A-list talent on stage can't help but notice the grandeur of its surroundings, and awestruck shout-outs to the theater between songs, in front of 2,800 rapt audience members, are common. Whoever's headlining is almost beside the

occasional help from a drop-by musician or chef. Visitors might stop by the Turntable Kitchen to hear "three belly-burning covers of the Clash's 'Guns of Brixton'" in the Served Three Ways feature, or to get the ingredients for the perfect asparagus frittata in the recipe index — paired to Field Music, thanks to the dishes' festive and delicate notes. Or maybe they'll sign up for the popular Pairings Box, which arrives each month with recipes, dry ingredients, and a limited-edition vinyl seven-inch single meant to match

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Organized by the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA.

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**Man Ray** (1890–1976), *Larmes (Glass Tears)*, 1933. Gelatin silver print. Private collection. © 2012 Man Ray Trust/Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/ADAGP, Paris.

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Martin Parr, *Fashion Shoot for Amica, New York* (detail), 1999. © Martin Parr / Stephen Daiter Gallery.

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This exhibition was organized by the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco in collaboration with the Mori Art Museum, Tokyo. Presentation at the Asian Art Museum is made possible by support from The Bernard Osher Foundation, the W.L.S. Spencer Foundation, Koret Foundation, Columbia Foundation, The Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Charitable Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, Credit Suisse, United, Union Bank, Christie's, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, and an anonymous foundation, with additional support from The Japan Foundation and The Dedalus Foundation, Inc. Howie Tsui, *Mount Abundance and the TipToe People #2* (detail), 2010. © Howie Tsui. Courtesy of the artist.

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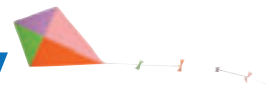
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## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONT>>

Symmetry Theatre Company's *Patience Worth*, Megan Cohen's *A Three Little Dumplings Adventure* parts one and two, Boxcar Theatre's *Buried Child*, and *A Lie of the Mind* (to name but a few), while continuing to create new intensely physical theater works with the 11th Hour Ensemble, of which she is a co-founder. We honestly have no idea what play or theater space she'll turn up in next — but we're definitely looking forward to it. You should be too.

### BEST MARIACHISTAS

Those of you who are familiar with such things will know one rarely sees a female mariachi musician. Rarely, but not never: introducing **Mariachi Feminil Orgullo Mexicano**. The 10-person troupe boasts full string, brass, and rhythm sections, and every member is a woman. Feminine force like this — wrapped in electric blue, floor-length skirted uniforms edged in stunning silver trim — isn't something you see every day at your favorite restaurant. Established in 2007, the education-minded troupe was the first XX-chromosomal group of its kind in the Bay Area. Since then, it's been winning over audiences with its plaintive, powerful renditions of Mexican classics and new favorites. [www.mariarchifom.com](http://www.mariarchifom.com)

### BEST USE OF CLASSIC FILM FOOTAGE IN A RAP MUSIC VIDEO

Car chases don't get much better than the scenes of Steve McQueen speeding through San Francisco in *Bullitt* (1968). Given the driving, heart-pounding beat and casual-cool flow of San Jose rapper **Antwon's**

“**Helicopter**” music video — the track's off the *Fantasy Beds* mixtape — it made perfect cinematic sense for director Brandon Tauszik to match the song with quick vintage clips of the classic flick. The resulting three-minute video dips between those intense McQueen thousand-yard stares as cars lunge over notoriously steep hills in a washed-out Technicolor haze, spliced with modern next-big-thing Bay Area hip-hop producers (Antwon, MondreMAN, and Squadda B of Main Attraktionz) and their undeniably attractive pals, wandering their neighborhoods, chilling on porches, and pouring spicy Sriracha over hearty breakfasts. “Fuck ‘em all/that's my new motto” Antwon raps as the beat steadies and scenes flash by — a thrilling compliment to the classic footage, given the film's original jazz score.

[www.brandontauszik.com](http://www.brandontauszik.com)

### BEST PUNK PUSHERS

Shop, record label, small concert purveyor — Oakland's **1-2-3-4 Go! Records** is a multi-use punk haven, selling rare and highly desirable underground vinyl, releasing albums by noisy locals, and hosting roaming growlers in an intimate setting. Like its down-south contemporary, indie-music haven Burger Records, 1-2-3-4 Go! harks back to the days of dusty record shops acting as all-purpose hangouts, and doing it well. The site has hosted all-ages shows by Australia's Royal Headache, Audacity (a Burger Records favorite), and locals Uzi Rash, Apache, and Street Eaters. The label has released vinyl by East Bay garage messiahs Shannon & the Clams, King Lollipop, and the Sandwiches, among others. And the cozy store

CONTINUES ON PAGE 52 >>



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## BEST OF THE BAY

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CONT>>

roll fans from throughout the Bay, with open, denim jacket-clad arms. 423 40th St., Oakl. (510) 985-0325, www.1234gorecords.com

#### BEST JEDI MASTERS

A long time ago (actually every Sunday, noon-3pm) in a galaxy far, far away (in fact, Studio Gracia in SoMa) ... there came a troupe of heroes to teach and uphold a masterful tradition of movement, grace, control, and oneness with a universal force. No, not yoga — think Yoda, and picture Force with a capital F. Then envision a choreography class filled with lightsaber-wielding Jedi aspirants eager to keep the *Star Wars* legacy alive IRL. Not that there's any danger of that boundless franchise running out of nerd fuel, but the **Golden Gate Knights**, organized by Alain Bloch, certainly have a stellar thing going. Who wouldn't want to learn the "fancy flourishes and spins, including forward and reverse spins, inverted grips, and figure eights" of lightsaber brandishment in an atmosphere so respectful of its Jedi legacy that each class begins with five minutes of meditation? You get a little exercise out of it, too — in no time, it'll bye-bye Jabba, hello Leia.

www.goldengateknights.com

#### BEST DECEPTIVELY EPHEMERAL FILM FEST

Really though, **Disposable Film Festival** is a misnomer. Founded in 2007, with an inaugural event at Artists Television

Access in early 2008, DFF has since evolved into a traveling-fest juggernaut with screenings in Paris, Beijing, Brazil, Macedonia, Argentina — basically, anywhere with open-minded audiences hungrily for unique short films. Here's where the "disposable" part comes in: the films are made DIY-style, using technology of the hand-held, pocket-sized, and easily-accessible-to-everyone variety, like cell phones and webcams. And though its festival screenings are a global phenomenon, DFF also hosts workshops, panel discussions, and other events (bike-in movies!) aimed at inspiring artists — especially young folks who are just discovering the wide world of creative filmmaking beyond those 3D superheroes at the multiplex. www.disposablefilmfest.com

#### BEST FAIRY EXPLOSION

Once every year, right around Pride time in June, a fantastical fey Imaginarium of uninhibited queer art, dance, theater, ecology, lube-wrestling, puppy piles, porn debuts, and fearlessly naked fabulosity pops up in the old Tower Records building in the Castro. This is the fag-ulous **Faetopia** festival which, for one delirious week, complements the corporate-sponsored and slickly marketed Pride happenings with a burst of summer solstice fairy dust. The event comes courtesy of the Radical Faeries, those scruffy pan-sexual Pagan sprites whose naturist movement has a long history in the Bay Area, where they spread their gay-gay wings from untamed

CONTINUES ON PAGE 54 >>



JOCQUESE WHITFIELD OF VOGUE AND TONE: BEST YOU BETTA WORK PHOTO BY ANASTACIA POWERS



# COMEDY SAVES THE DAY (AGAIN).



DAVE HOLMES



DR. GOD



MESSING w/a FRIEND



RON WEST



BATS IMPROV  
San Francisco



WEIRDASS  
w/STEPHNIE WEIR



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## BEST OF THE BAY

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONT>>

their gay-gay wings from untamed redwood groves to notorious Burning Man camps. More than 50 artists join forces to create programs — like Gay Hist-Orgy (performer Ian McKinnon's “cruise of gay historical figures”) and Flaming Queens on Fire! (fire-dancing lessons) — that stuff some good ol’ polymorphous perversity into Pride’s polished corners. And at the very center? Faetopia’s there too, with the hip-pie-chill Fairy Freedom Village area within the Civic Center festival itself. [www.faetopia.com](http://www.faetopia.com)

### BEST TECHNO OUR WAY

In response to the onslaught of mass-produced, sugar-rush electronic sounds ruling the pop charts these days, many finer San Francisco dance floors have returned to a more underground aesthetic. This renaissance of sophisticated techno plugs into a global movement — unabashedly intelligent, yet still madly danceable. And while many fantastic local party promoters have emerged, the *As You Like It* crew has been on a massive tear like no other. In just two years, they have risen from a nomadic underground existence to pack larger legal venues with dozens of parties that feature uncompromising local and international talent, yet never lose that singular, slightly extra-legal vibe and attention to detail. Some of the most exciting names in dance music have passed through the Bay Area thanks to *As You Like It*'s dedication, helping to make our party scene an essential destination for dance fanatics. To fittingly repurpose one of the crew's favorite adjectives: quality. [www.ayli-sf.com](http://www.ayli-sf.com)

### BEST YOU BETTA WORK

Voguing — that drop-dead fabulous and seriously competitive gay African American dance-battle art form — has recently come back into the spotlight, with a new generation of club kids and art queens taking to the floor to chop, mop, drop, drag, gag, and get “cunty.” San Francisco, of course, has put its own spin on the high-attitude, limb-flinging

style that originated in the '70s in underground ballrooms on the East Coast, transforming the dance into a way to get in shape. You may not have come from the streets, but you're going to leave *Vogue and Tone* with amazing thighs, honey. The wiggly workout class — Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm, at Dance Mission Theater and Thursdays, 8:30-9:45pm, at ODC Commons — is led by kicky, spinny showman Sir JoQ, a.k.a. Jocquese



AREA 2881 GALLERY: BEST ROBOT DUNGEON

PHOTO BY BRITTANY M. POWELL

Whitfield. The dance has also hit the club circuit, leaping on a recent trend of retro-style dance-floor workout sessions, so be on the lookout and don't throw shade. If all you know of vogue is that old Madonna track, it's time to get in-shape and up-to-date. [www.dancemission.com](http://www.dancemission.com)

### BEST ESOTERIC GUIDEBOOK

*City Notes:* *San Francisco* will never counsel you to try the chowder bowl at Fisherman's Wharf. Nor will it prove useful in finding the best way to walk between Chinatown and the Ferry Building. It won't give you directions at all, for that matter. The artful wood-bound guidebook, put together by a team of Wesleyan alumni headed by Jesse Coburn, is comprised of quiet shots and histories behind 25 little-known sites in San Francisco, such as the Columbarium, Molinari-Mana

Park, Mount Davidson, and the Swedenborgian Church. *City Notes* doesn't spill the address beans, making it the perfect treasure hunt for the urban explorer-wanderer. The book's covers are hand-bound to the velvety sheets within; its producers had so much fun making the finely crafted object, in fact, that they plan on putting together similar guides for other cities around the world. [www.terrywarnerpress.com](http://www.terrywarnerpress.com)

### BEST SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR CIRCUS FREAKS, ACOUSTIC GEEKS, AND SOLO EXHIBITIONISTS

How does *Stagewerx* proprietress Ty McKenzie do it? She always finds the way to a “yes” where others might jump to a “no.” In both its old location on Sutter Street and its brand-new digs on Valencia, *Stagewerx* has created a supportive environment par excellence for performers of every discipline, amateurs and seasoned pros alike. From ongoing performance series such as Solo Sundays and Previously Secret Information to the raucous hi-jinks of Picklewater Clown Cabaret and Circus Finelli; from Tom Sway's low-key, lo-fi music series Underground Sound to ambitious runs of new works by companies such as PianoFight, Wily West Productions, and Foul Play, *Stagewerx*'s focus

on helping quirky and emerging artists find a “yes” of their own is more than refreshing — it's essential.

446 Valencia, SF. [www.stagewerx.org](http://www.stagewerx.org)

### BEST ROCK ON SIXTH

For all the underworld grittiness ascribed to the storied block of Sixth Street between Market and Mission, you'd think the guttural yowl of punk — or at least the soothing howl of good ol' rock and roll — would be an integral part of the roiling Sixth mix. And yet, can you believe it, there was nary a hole-in-the-wall live rock club there (or anywhere else in the mid-Market or downtown area for that matter) until *RKRL*, our very own CBGB, opened last year. The result of a collaboration between Club Six and the wild LowSF crew, *RKRL* has already hosted an onslaught of local and extra-local

CONTINUES ON PAGE 56 >>





END *the* DAY  
with MORE FRIENDS  
*than* REGRETS.



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## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

rabble-rousers, including the Devil's Own, Ruleta Rusa, the Mutilators, and Animal Games. Are we back in a world where down-and-dirty downtown rock clubs still exist? Hell yes. 52 Sixth St., SF. (415) 658-5506, [www.facebook.com/RKRLSF](http://www.facebook.com/RKRLSF)

### BEST FOGOLYSTICS

Since 1989, when the troupe was founded by community leader Carlos Aceituno, **Fogo Na Roupa** has been

taking to the streets, the stages, and the dance studios with its rhythmic, Latin-African-hip-hop fusion beats. Where might you have seen them perform? Perhaps during their be-feathered, be-dazzled promenades through SF Carnival — with as many as 200 performers in a single appearance, the group is hard to miss. If you're feeling the fogolystics, the term the troupe has coined to describe its powerful mix of musical genres, you can add your sparkle to the mix. On Tuesdays and Saturdays

they hold an open practice at Mission Cultural Center that you can jump in for just \$10. Seriously, everyone is invited — the group prides itself on performers ranging from kids to senior citizens. (510) 286-7926, [www.gofogo.com](http://www.gofogo.com)

### BEST ALL-AROUND GRRRL POWER

Basic bar moves and halting hip-hop steps may be what stuck with you from the dance classes of your youth, but (thankfully) today there's a new

kind of movement program that's all about teaching confidence and power, in addition to how to rule a dancefloor. We're talking about **Grrrl Brigade**. Dance Mission Theatre hosts this series of classes in hip-hop, jazz, modern, and taiko (that's Japanese drum dancing) for nine to 18-year-old females. As they rock the courses, their leadership develops along with their dance skills. Grrrl Brigade students roar with self-esteem, thrive on collaboration, and have been known to pound away on gigantic drums,

taking the stage each year in a young person's version of *The Nutcracker*, and in a springtime show focusing on real-life issues the performers deal with when they're not in the spotlight.

Dance Mission Theater, 3316 Mission, SF. [www.dancemission.com](http://www.dancemission.com)

### BEST BAR TO TATTOO ON YOUR BICEP

Some might have seen the deserted stretch of Harrison Street as a business liability, but Jay Beaman and Oliver Piazza of Thieves Tavern and Dirty Thieves didn't let the low walk-up potential dissuade them from opening **Dear Mom**. We're glad. Because if they had, we'd be bereft of their expansive boozery (once the salsa club El Rincon) flush with affordable booze, a photobooth, beckoning seating areas, and a kitchen that hosts pop-up eateries hawking sushi, fried green tomato hamburgers, and everything in between. The one thing Mom needs to be an SF standard is cheapo local icon Broke Ass Stuart hawking picklebacks (whiskey shots with a pickle juice chaser, duh) on Wednesday nights in his never-ending quest to pay rent. Oh wait, that actually happens. 2700 16th St., SF. (415) 625-3362

### BEST ROBOT DUNGEON

From the outside, it's an unassuming Mission District storefront, infrequently open to the public. But inside, **Area 2881** reveals a rare glimpse into the private lives of robots. Perched on miniature footlit pedestals, two robot slaves dance for roving audiences, their slightly jerky motions belying the complexity of their 41 meticulously designed joints. The slaves appear both vulnerable yet indestructible, humanoid yet alien, and the weird spectacle of their forced entertaining is both unsettling and strangely affecting. The rest of the room is a whirring, spinning, buzzing paroxysm of light and kinetic sculpture, ushered into this world from a parallel plane by the human hands of mild-mannered applications engineer by day, mad scientist by night, Carl Pisaturo. 2881 23rd St., SF. [www.carlpisaturo.com](http://www.carlpisaturo.com)

### BEST NIGHT IN THE MUSEUM

Afterhours museum parties full of bright young things witnessing cool artistic happenings are anything but a rarity in our forward-thinking area. And really, we wouldn't have it any other way. May we especially highlight the amazing series that is **L@TE: Friday Nights at BAM/PFA**? This is

CONTINUES ON PAGE 58 >>

## BRICK & MORTAR

### UPCOMING SHOWS

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**TUE 8/14**  
**IVAN AND ALYOSHA**



**SAT 8/04**  
**EXTRA ACTION**  
**MARCHING BAND**  
ITCHY-O MARCHING BAND



**FRI 8/24**  
ROYAL FAMILY PRESENTS  
**ALAN EVANS TRIO**  
AFROMASSIVE



**THU 8/09**  
**THE LEE BOYS**



**SAT 9/01**  
**LOST BAYOU**  
**RAMBLERS**



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REID SAW A GHOST,  
2 MORE TBA

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A BETTER KIND,  
OUT FOR BLOOD,  
HEMORAGE,  
INFINITO IN TORQUES,  
TO OUR LEGENDS

**SAT 7/28 8pm \$12**  
ILL REPUTE,  
SAD BOY SINISTER,  
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STAGGER & FALL,  
EPILEPTIC SEIZURE

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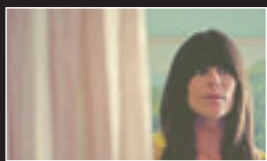
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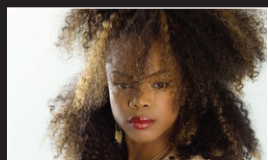
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(((FOLKYEAH!)))  
PRESENTS  
**NICKI BLUHM**  
AND THE GRAMBLERS



**SAT 8/04**  
**DUMPSTAPHUNK**  
ZIGABOO MODELISTE



**FRI 8/24**  
**NON STOP BHANGRA**  
BANG DATA



**FRI 8/10**  
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PRESENT  
**LEELA JAMES**  
DJ BIG RUSS



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THU AUG 2 9:00pm, \$6	<b>LENZ</b> Uzi Rash, City Deluxe
FRI AUG 3 9:00pm, \$7	<b>NIGHT BIRDS (NJ)</b> Sharp Objects, Ruleta Rusa, Bad Coyotes
SAT AUG 4 9:30pm, \$7	<b>THE PLEASURE KILLS</b> The Sweet Pups (Seattle, ex- cute Lepers), The Ballantynes

**UPCOMING:** The Wild Kindness, Former Friends Of Young Americans, Cosmonauts, Gap Dream, Mansfield Aviator, Domestic Electrics, Young Moon (record release), Vestals, Danny Paul Grody, Sporting Life, My Second Surprise, Vir, Lovely Bad Things (Burger), Dikes of Holland (Austin), Wimps, Tied to the Branches, Serpent Crown

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## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

CONT>>

affair at which an “electric orchestra of pickle jars accompanied by abstract lighting machines” and the occasional pop-in by Devendra Banhart are a given. The wonderfully heady and innovative social gatherings fill the Berkeley Art Museum with experiential art and music (construct rainbow prisms, listen to Negativland, deconstruct Scritti Politti records, join an avant-

cabaret) and light up the Pacific Film Archives with glorious 16mm and 35mm prints of rare and recently restored films. Also: dancing! If you’ve ever dreamt of meeting your soul mate while watching 3-D animation, participating in interactive dance performances, and peeping the latest emerging local artists, you need to get L@TE. Occasional Fridays, 5:30-9pm, \$7. Berkeley Art Museum, 2626 Bancroft Way, Berk. (510) 642-0808, www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

## BEST ARTS HIGH NOTE

Whether it’s the free yoga classes, creative summer art camp, or Saturday afternoon alfresco concerts, the **Bayview Opera House’s** offerings are as vibrant and active as they were when the building was built in 1888 (maybe more so? The Guardian wasn’t around back then). The historic landmark community center supports the still-diverse neighborhood of Bayview-Hunters Point, hosting awesome fundraisers like Black

Men Can Cook and Mendell Plaza Presents, a 12-week concert series that transforms a little triangle of pavement into a full-on dance floor featuring local neighborhood musicians — not to mention domino tables and BBQ — alongside a community garden filled with vibrant veggies. Kids from the 100 Percent College Prep Club make up much of the musical talent. Here’s to 125 more amazing years. 4705 Third St., SF. (415) 824-0386, www.bvoh.org **SFBG**



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BEST OF THE BAY

# SHOPPING

• EDITOR'S PICKS •



## ASMBLY HALL: BEST FRESH PREP

PHOTO BY BRITTANY M. POWELL

### BEST CHARGE AHEAD

Though electric bikes far outnumber cars in communities from China's crowded cities to mountainous towns in the Swiss Alps, they have yet to catch on here in the States. Regardless of the reason, and despite SF's hilly terrain — quite possibly the perfect venue for the bikes' charms — the owners of New Wheel make this list for sheer entrepreneurial derring-do. Karen and Brett Thurber went ahead and opened the city's first e-bike-focused store, where they also do repair, hawk sleek Euro-designed accessories, and host the neighborhood's first

e-bike charging station. The station, designed as a gas pump from that not-so-distant era when we needed to drive cars to work (we are writing you from the future), also charges cell phones, digital cameras, and more — quite the charge for the Bernal Heights community.

420 Cortland, SF. (415) 524-7362, [www.thenewwheel.net](http://www.thenewwheel.net)

### BEST FRESH PREP

Holy Vampire Weekend, Kanye — no need to waste your time drooling over the archives of Street Etiquette, the sharpest neo-preppy style blog of our time. Fulfill your up-to-the-minute Ivy League-ish

yearnings (with a dash of street-level snazz) at Asmbly Hall, the Fillmore men's and women's clothing shop for the sophisticated prepster. The natty clothes aren't priced too outrageously (button-down shirts are around \$80), and familiar classics are tweaked with unique elements like scalloped collars and stripy inseams. Husband-wife owners Ron and Tricia Benitez have reworked an old mattress store into an absolutely lovely space with brick walls and blond wood floors. Here's where you'll score that funky two-tone cardigan, irreplaceable Macarthur shirt,

CONTINUES ON PAGE 64 >>



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Hidden in a corner of the beloved Rooky Ricardo's Records store is the domain of Glass Key Photo owner and photography enthusiast Matt Osborne. From a funky wedge of floor space, Osborne offers a top-notch, well-edited, and cheap selection of cameras, film, and darkroom gear. Much of his treasure is stored in an old-school refrigerator case, making for an appealingly bizarre shopping experience. Customers thirsty for hard-to-find photographic gear should check out Glass Key before the bigger-name stores — even if the refrigerator doesn't hold the key to your photographic fantasies, Osborne is happy to special order what

he doesn't have. He also earns rave reviews for his camera repair skills, and sells root beer to thirsty shutterbugs.

448 Haight, SF. (415) 829-9946,  
www.glasskeyphoto.com

#### BEST VINTAGE MEGAVULT

It is no secret that San Francisco has thrifting issues. Due to the admirable commitment to cheaply bought fashion (and high incidence of broke, underemployed drag queens), most of our used clothing stores are heavily picked over — or well-curated, with ghastly price tags to match. Those sick of fighting could do worse than steer their Zipcars north. In Sebastopol sits Aubergine, a high-ceilinged mega-vault stuffed with vintage slips, half-bustiers — clearly geared toward the Burning Man strumpet — menswear, and the occasional accessibly priced Insane Clown Posse T-shirt. Racks on racks on racks on racks — and if you need a break from bargain browsing, you're in

CONTINUES ON PAGE 66 >>



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**Step 3** – We calculate a purchase price for your items, based on Spot Price, Karat content, and Weight.

**Step 4** – If you accept our offer, we will pay you cash, or company check, on the spot.

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## LIVE PRICES

Oxbridge House is actively updating our prices to be the most competitive in the industry. There may be a delay in the prices on this page, and our inventory often changes.

### Gold Bullion: Products

1 Oz. American Eagle  
1 Oz. American Buffalo  
1 Oz. Austrian Philharmonic  
1 Oz. Canadian Maple Leaf  
1 Oz. Pamp Suisse Bar  
1 Oz. South African Krugerrand  
1 Oz. Chinese Panda

### We Buy At

Spot + 15  
Spot + 10  
Spot  
Spot  
Spot - 10  
Spot  
Spot + 10

### We Sell At

Spot + 75  
Spot + 75  
Spot + 70  
Spot + 50  
Spot + 35  
Spot + 50  
Spot + 80

### Silver Bullion: Products

1 Oz. American Eagle  
1 Oz. Round  
10 Oz. Bar  
100 Oz. Bar  
90% \$1000 Bag

### We Buy At

Spot + .50  
Spot - .50  
Spot - .50 x 10  
Spot - .65 x 100  
Spot - 1.5 x 715

### We Sell At

Spot + 3  
Spot + 15  
Spot + 1.5 x 10  
Spot + 115 x 100  
Spot + 1 x 715

## WHAT WE BUY

### Watches:

Gold Pocket Watches, Gold & Silver Wrist Watches, Rolex, Cartier, etc.

### Sterling Silver:

Flatware, Tableware, Cutlery, Jewelry, Etc. Just look for a stamp that says 925, or Sterling.

### Paper Money:

U.S. Gold or Silver Certificates, Confederate Money, Foreign Money

### Rare & Numismatic Coins:

Pre-1933 U.S. Gold Coins, Foreign Gold and Silver Coins, Pre-1965 U.S. Dollars, Half Dollars, Quarters, & Dimes, Proof Sets, Mint Sets, Commemoratives, etc.

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## BEST OF THE BAY

### SHOPPING

CONT>>

luck. The shop has its own cafe and full bar, where many nights you'll find live music from gypsy dance to jazz drumming. 755 Petaluma, Sebastopol. (707) 827-3460, [www.aubergineafterdark.com](http://www.aubergineafterdark.com)

### BEST BLEMISH-VANISHING BOTANICS

The charming, chatty cashiers at the **Benedetta Skin Care** kiosk in the Ferry Building have clear, shiny skin, but it's not due to the local produce from the farmers market outside. Based in Petaluma, Benedetta offers organic, botanics-based, sustainably packaged products that actually work. Take a tip from your freshly scrubbed lotion sellers: rather than loofah-ing your skin to a pulp with packaged peroxides that — let's face it — sound kind of scary when you actually read the fine print, refresh with the line's perfectly moist Crème Cleanser that leaves skin smelling like a mixture of rosemary and geranium. From anti-aging creams to deodorants and moisturizing mist sprays, this small company offers treats for all skin types — perfect for popping in next to your small-producer cheese wheels and grass-fed charcuterie.

1 Ferry Building, SF. (415) 263-8910, [www.benedetta.com](http://www.benedetta.com)

### BEST TOME TRADE

Interested in perpetuating a bibliophilic mythos among your houseguests? Turned on by the image of sitting quietly by a roaring fireplace, sipping a brandy, and reading Kafka amid towers of dusty tomes? Well, the **Bay Area Free Book Exchange** has those tomes for you to own. Since its opening in 2009, the Exchange has given away more than 245,000 free books for the sole joy of making knowledge accessible in book form. The nonprofit is run by a collection of book-lovers in El Cerrito who sell some of the donated volumes on eBay in order to pay rent, electricity, and other expenses. The rest of the stories, however, make their way to the Exchange's storefront, where every weekend customers are invited to take up to 200 titles at once. Stock your bathroom with freaky medical guides? Actually read the books you

snap up? We'll let you work out the ethics on your own.

10520 San Pablo, El Cerrito.  
(510) 705-1200,  
[www.bayareafreebookexchange.com](http://www.bayareafreebookexchange.com)

### BEST INDIE KITCHEN MENAGERIE

It can be hard to beat the sheer variety offered by your Ikeas and Bed Bath & Beyonds when it comes to fresh new flatware or an upgrade on your trusty college-era rice cooker. Lucky for local business fans (which we assume you are if you're this deep into our Best of the Bay issue), there's a little-guy alternative: Clement Street's **Kamei Restaurant Supply**. Kamei has dishes for every occasion: light blue earthenware plates with fetching designs of cherry blossom trees, coffee mugs shaped like barn owls and kitty cats, tea sets, sake sets, and every cook-

that's why Feelmore510's a new East Bay necessity.

1703 Telegraph, Oakl. (510) 891-0199, [www.feelmore510.com](http://www.feelmore510.com)

### BEST AU NATUREL FOR OENOPHILES

Much of the wine we drink is stuffed full of chemical preservatives. Purists like wine critic Alice Feiring have raised a hue and cry over the industry's reluctance to force producers to label these ingredients. We have to give it up to a little shop off of Polk Street for supporting the so-called "natural wine" movement which encourages additive-free imbibement. **Biondivino** is charming enough in its own right: library-style shelves full of luscious Italian pours, among which proprietor Ceri Smith has made sure to include many natural wines. And because these bottles tend to be pro-

## MY SKIN IS WORTH THE DRIVE IT TAKES TO GET A TATTOO FROM MICHAEL BIANCO AT MISS PHOENIX ROSE!

ANGEL, CUPERTINO

ing utensil a chef could desire — plus paper umbrellas with koi fish prints and flip-flops. Maybe 'cuz with all the savings you'll spot in Kamei, you'll be able to afford more beach trips.

525 Clement, SF. (415) 666-3699

### BEST COMMUNITY CENTER

Nenna Joiner's done a number on us. In a Bay Area full of superlative sex shops, her **Feelmore510** — which opened a year and a half ago — has run away with our sex-positive souls. What makes her business stand out? It could be her rainbow of pornos (Joiner herself makes skin flicks that have an emphasis on racial, sexual, and body-type diversity) or, it could be the pretty store design, with erotic art displayed in the shop's plate-glass windows. You'll often find Joiner at her store as late as 1:30am: besides outfitting her customers with stimulating gear, she hosts in-store sex ed lectures and movie screenings. "Sex is a basic need for survival," she told the Guardian in an interview earlier this year. We agree, and

duced by small-scale vineyards, Biondivino helps support the little guys, too. Sure, sometimes all you can spring for is a bottle of three-buck Chuck (natural wines can be pricey) — but props to Smith for giving consumers the choice.

1415 Green, SF. (415) 673-2320, [www.biondivino.com](http://www.biondivino.com)

### BEST DIY PANDA BAIT

"If just owning a bamboo bike was the end goal, we'd just build them for you," said Justin Aguinaldo in a Guardian interview back in February. "For us, it's about empowering more people and providing them with the value of creating your own thing." Aguinaldo's Tenderloin DIY cycling hub **Bamboo Bike Studio** doesn't just produce two-wheeled steeds whose frames are made of easily-regenerated natural materials — it teaches you useful bike-making skills so that you can be the master of your own self-powered transportation destiny. Buy your bike parts (kits start at \$459), and then get yourself to tinkering. After

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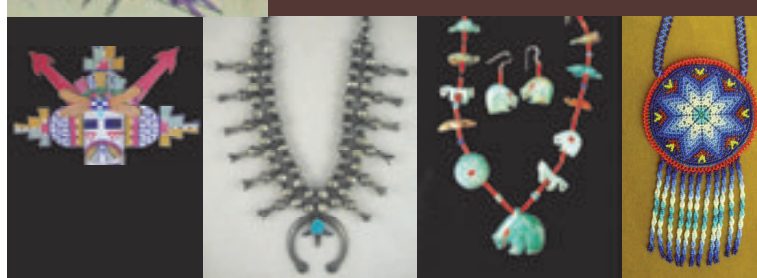
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Detail of Ledger Painting by Michael Horse





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982 Post, SF.  
www.bamboobikestudio.com

#### **BEST LITERARY VALHALLA**

For lovers of esoteric literature, **2141 Mission** is a dream come true. The unassuming storefront (the building's ground floor is occupied by

the standard hodgepodge of Mission District discount stores) belies a cluster of alternative bookstores on its upper levels. Valhalla Books is flush with titles in their debut printing; Libros Latinos holds exactly that; lovers of law history will find their joy in the aisles of Meyer Boswell; and the building's largest shop, Bolerium Books, holds records

CONTINUES ON PAGE 68 >>

ROOTS:  
BEST SPLASH  
OF GREEN  
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GODOFREDO VASQUEZ/  
SF NEWSPAPER CO.

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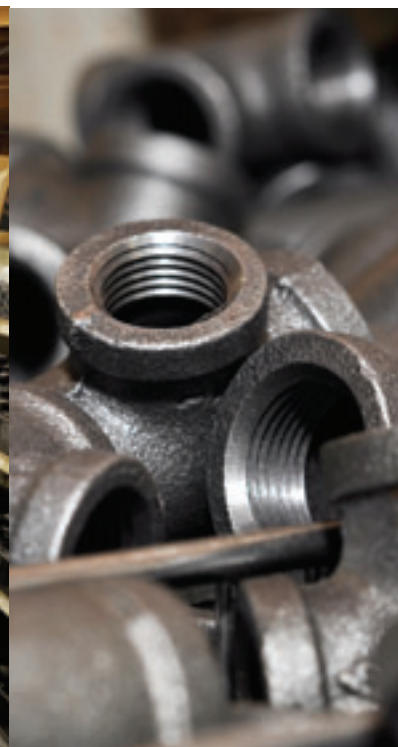
of radical history — volumes and magazines that together form a fascinating look at the gay rights, civil rights, labor, and feminist movements (and more!). Most visitors make the pilgrimage with something specific in mind, but walk-ins are welcome as long as they have a love of the printed page.

Bolerium Books, No. 300. (415) 863-6353, [www.bolerium.com](http://www.bolerium.com); Libros Latinos, No. 301. (415) 793-8423, [www.libroslatinos.com](http://www.libroslatinos.com); Meyer Boswell, No. 302. (415) 255-6400, [www.meyerbos.com](http://www.meyerbos.com); Valhalla Books, No. 202. (415) 863-9250

### BEST EXQUISITE ADZES

Some chefs drool over the copper pots at posh cooking stores. Artists lovingly caress the sable brushes in painting shops. But what aspirational retail options exist for the you, the craftsman? Home Despot? Perish the thought! Your days of retail resentment are over. At the **Japan Woodworker**, you can fondle high-end power tools to deplete your paycheck, plus tools hand-made in traditional Japanese style — like pull saws, chisels, and adzes — which are not only beautiful, but quite affordable. If you're the type of person who savors doing things the slow way, the tools found here will do much to imbue your projects with love and care. And if you're not, perhaps it's time you paid a little more attention to detail — a very Japanese value, indeed.

1731 Clement, Alameda.  
(510) 521-1810,  
[www.japanwoodworker.com](http://www.japanwoodworker.com)



OWNER SHIRRA LO OF K H PLUMBING SUPPLY: BEST NEIGHBORHOOD FIXTURES PHOTO BY GODOFREDO VASQUEZ/SF NEWSPAPER CO.

### BEST BUSHELS OF BUDS

Ever rolled your eyes at the endless articles on flower arranging found in home magazines — as if you had the money or the time? Then you might be due for a visit to the **San Francisco Flower Mart**. The SoMa gem sells cut flowers of every description at wholesale prices, making it the perfect playground for those looking to get plenty of practice, per-penny, poking stems into vases. And if your Martha Stewart moment doesn't seem imminent, there are plenty of other fixin's — giant glass balls, decorative podiums, fish tanks, driftwood, grosgrain ribbons, flamingo-themed party supplies — to rifle through. It's the perfect place to while away your

lunch break: it smells great, and it even has a perky little cafe to caffeinate your midday visit.

640 Brannan, SF. (415) 392-7944,  
[www.sfflrmart.com](http://www.sfflrmart.com)

### BEST NEIGHBORHOOD FIXTURES

Hey, you with the dreams of a better bathroom! There's no need to put up any longer with that cracked toilet bowl, that faulty faucet, that perma-grody bathtub, or that shower head that suddenly switches into "destroy" mode at the worst possible moment (i.e. right in the middle of herbal-rinsing your long, lustrous hair). Head down — or direct your responsible landlord down — to the cluster of independent home supply stores at the intersection of

Bayshore Avenue and Industrial Street in Bayview-Hunter's Point. There you'll find **K H Plumbing Supplies**, a huge family-owned and operated bathroom and kitchen store with everything you need to fulfill your new fixture fantasies. The staff is extra-friendly and can gently guide you toward affordable options in better-known name brands. Even if you have only a vague idea as to which of the thousand bath spouts will reflect your unique personality, they'll find something for you to gush over.

2272 Shafter, SF. (415) 970-9718

### BEST GET LIT

Back in college, you probably had that friend who dressed up as a Christmas tree on

Halloween and had to dance near a wall outlet all night so he could stay plugged in. Or ... maybe you didn't. Either way, costumes that light up are no longer just for burner freaks and shortsighted frat bays. With a little help from **Cool Neon**, anyone can get lit in an affordable el-wire wrapped masterpiece of their own creation. Wanna cover your car with LEDs? This place can do it. Creative signage for your business? No problem for these neon gods. And even if you're just missing the sparkly, lit-up streets of the holiday season, Cool Neon can oblige: its Mandela Parkway façade is a light show in itself.

1433 Mandela, Oakl. (510) 547-5878,  
[www.coolneon.com](http://www.coolneon.com)

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## BEST ART SQUAWK

Sure, on any given Sunday **The Rare Bird** is flush with vintage duds for guys and gals, antique cameras, birdhouses, jewelry, and trinkets. But for all you birds looking to truly find your flock, fly in to this fresh store on third Thursdays during the Piedmont Avenue Art Walk. Rare Bird proprietress Erica Skone-Reese hatched the event a year ago, and has chaired the art walk committee ever since, giving all those art-walk lovers who Murmur, Stroll, and Hop (all names of Bay Area art walks, for the uninitiated) a place to home in between first Fridays. Can't make it when the Ave.'s abuzz? No worries. Rare Bird curates an always-changing list of featured artisans — like Featherluxe, who'll fulfill your vegan feather-extension needs should you have them — and recently began offering classes

find yourself lonely, having lost your tweeby mates to Endgame's undeniable charms. Or worse: venture in to drag them out and risk being won over, yourself.

921 Washington, Oakl. (510) 465-3637, [www.endgameoakland.com](http://www.endgameoakland.com)

## BEST KNOBS OF GLAMOUR

In addition to being part of a string of friendly neighborhood hardware stores, **Belmont Hardware's** Potrero Hill showroom brims unexpectedly with rooms of fancy doorknobs, created by the companies who design modern-day fittings for the likes of the White House and the Smithsonian. A gold-plated door handle with an engraving of the Sun King? A faucet set featuring two crystal birds with out-stretched wings, vigilantly regulating your hot and cold? It's all at Belmont Hardware. With a broad range of prices (you can still go to

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in all art forms trendy and hipster, from terrarium making to silhouette portraiture. 3883 Piedmont, Oakl. (510) 653-2473, [www.therarebird.com](http://www.therarebird.com)

## BEST PLACE TO STASH YOUR NERDS

Got nerdy friends you just can't understand? Feel bad asking them to explain, for the tenth time, the difference between RGP, GMT, MMP, and D&D? WOW them with a trip to **Endgame**. Not only will they find others who speak their language, but — because they can spend hours browsing board games, card games, toys, and trinkets — you'll have them out of your hair ... at least until you can look up what the heck they're talking about on Urban Dictionary. Add an always-open game room, plus swapmeets, mini-cons, and an online forum, to equal more nerd-free hours than you can shake a pack of Magic Cards at. Just be careful you don't

them for \$10 quick-fix drawer knobs and locks, don't worry) and an even broader scope of products, Belmont represents a world where hardware can inspire — check out the local chain's four other locations for more ways to bring the glory home.

Various Bay Area locations. [www.belmonthardware.com](http://www.belmonthardware.com)

## BEST ONE-UP ON INSTAGRAM

The square aspect ratio and grainy filters of everyone's favorite \$1 billion photography app turn perfectly good shots crappy-cool with the swipe of a finger, allowing smartphone users everywhere to take photos way back. But to take photos way, way back, you have to be in the Mission for a tintype portrait at **Photobooth**. These old-timey sheet-steel images were once popular at carnivals and fairs; even after wet plate photography became obsolete, tintypes were deemed charmingly

CONTINUES ON PAGE 70 >>

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## SHOPPING

CONT>>

nostalgic — a sort of prescient irony that pre-dated hipsterism yet neatly anticipated it. Perhaps that same appreciative irony applied to the tintage's tendency — due to long exposure time — to make subjects look vaguely, yet somehow quaintly, sociopathic. Or, as the Photobooth website delicately puts it, "Traditionally, tintypes recorded the intensity of the individual personality."

1193 Valencia, SF. (415) 824-1248, [www.photoboothsf.com](http://www.photoboothsf.com)

## BEST REALITY TV-STYLE SCORES

*Gold Rush Alaska? Deadliest Roads? Swamp Life?* Though you love 'em, it's hard to apply what you've learned during those late-night trashy-television-and-junk-food binges. But fans of *Storage Wars* and *American Pickers*, rejoice! At the **Santa Cruz Flea Market**, you'll meet folks who locker for a living and travel hours to sell their scores — everything from fur coats to



FEELMORE510: BEST CUMMUNITY CENTER PHOTOS BY AMBER SCHADEWALD

antique fuel tanks. Pick through yourself to see what invaluable treasures turn up: belt-driven two-seater motorcycle? Check. Handmade blown glass, Civil War memorabilia, bootlegger's

copper still? Check, check, check. Come for the farm-fresh produce, aisles of leather boots, plastic whose-whatsits and electronics of dubious provenance, or, if *Man Versus Food*

is more your style, challenge a massive stuffed baked potato or shrimp ceviche tostada.

Fridays, 7am; Saturdays, 6am; Sundays, 5:30am; \$1-\$2.50. 2260 Soquel, Santa Cruz. (831) 462-4442, [www.scgoodwill.org](http://www.scgoodwill.org)

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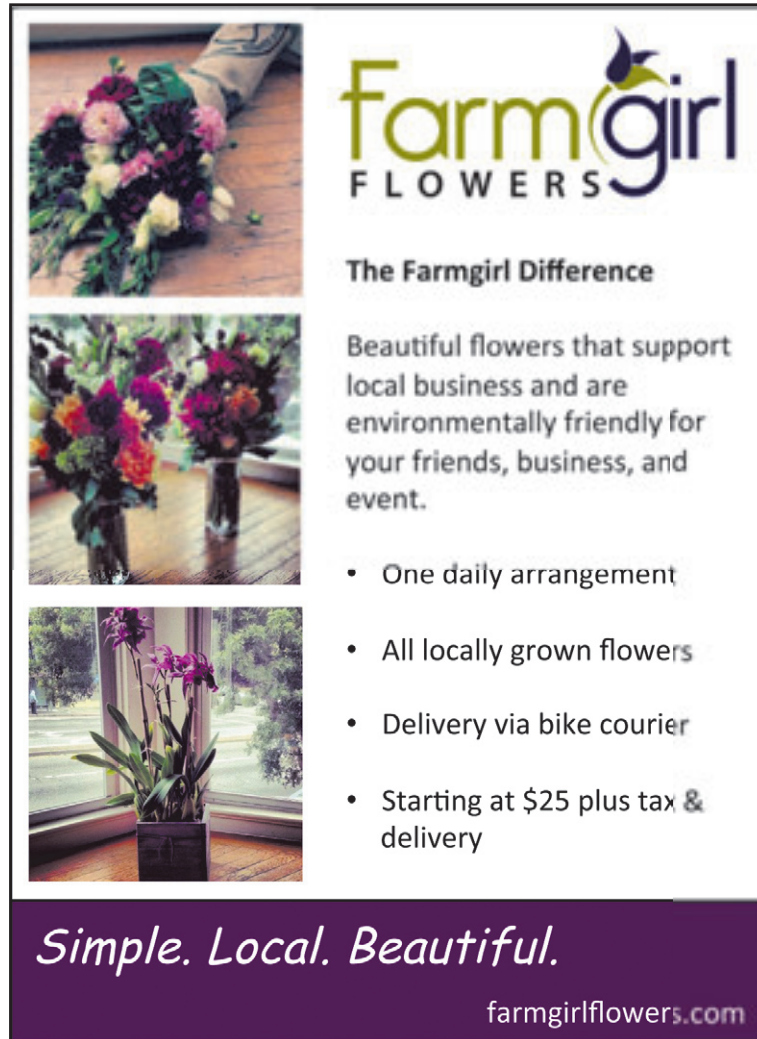


## JILL, MISSION TERRACE

470 49th St., Oakl. (510) 992-3519,  
www.crimsonhort.com

Though Skylar Fell fell in love with the squeezebox via a happy exposure to the punks of the East Bay's Accordion Plague back in the 1990s, she knows to pay homage to the masters. Fell apprenticed with master repairman Vincent J. Cirelli at his workshop in Brisbane (in business since 1946!), and at Berkeley's now-defunct Boaz Accordions, before opening **Accordion Apocalypse** in SoMa. The shop, which both sells and repairs, also stocks new and antique instruments in well-known brands (to accordionists, that is) Scandalli, Horner, Roland, and Gabanelli. Fell will fix you up if you bust a button

CONTINUES ON PAGE 72 >>



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BY STEVEN T. JONES  
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In the eyes of his critics, suspended Sheriff Ross Mirkarimi may never be able to recover from the claim by prosecutors and Mayor Ed Lee that he abused his wife, intimidated her with threats to use his power to take custody of their young son if they divorced, and used her and his campaign manager to try to dissuade witnesses and thwart a police investigation.

The tearful video of his wife, Venezuelan actress Eliana Lopez, displaying the bruise on her arm, and the fact that Mirkarimi pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor false-imprisonment charge in connection with the incident, are all these critics need to condemn him. Indeed, it was all that Lee relied on when he suspended Mirkarimi without pay and launched unprecedented official misconduct proceedings to remove him from office.

But now that the Ethics Commission has gotten through the substance of its inquiry — and past the tedious work of creating from scratch systems and standards for gathering evidence and evaluating whether it warrants an elected official's removal by the mayor — the testimony has told a very different story of what really happened.

Accusations of witness dissuasion (which had been one of three original criminal charges Mirkarimi faced before agreeing to a lesser plea deal) and abusing his official position haven't been supported by any direct evidence or testimony, and as the hearings wore on, Deputy City Attorneys Peter Keith and Sherri Kaiser were looking increasingly vindictive as they fruitlessly pursued those angles with witnesses who seemed credible.

There is also no direct evidence that the abuse was anything more than a moment of frustration and bad judgment at noontime on Dec. 31, when Mirkarimi grabbed Lopez's arm as she tried to walk away from their heated argument about divorce child custody, and she yanked it away.

Whether that incident and its aftermath meets the City Charter's broad and untested definition of official misconduct — including "conduct that falls below the standard of decency, good faith and right action impliedly required of all public officials" — will be up to the interpretation of the Ethics Commission, which has now accepted all the evidence that it has deemed relevant and cred-



## PERSPECTIVE AND PROPORTION

As the Ethics Commission finishes taking testimony in Mirkarimi inquiry, the evidence for most charges seems increasingly thin

ible. All that remains is the fight over its "findings of fact" at an Aug. 16 hearing and its subsequent recommendation to the Board of Supervisors, which could begin considering the matter in September.

There won't be an inquiry into whether Mayor Lee committed perjury on June 29, as outside witnesses said he did on two separate issues. The commission July 19 rejected the argument by Mirkarimi's attorneys that Lee's alleged lies under oath would cast doubt over his reasons for launching these unprecedented proceedings and the discretionary judgment he exercised. Commissioners decided that was a tangential issue.

In the final hour of the commission's laborious work in whittling down the voluminous evidence that the city has presented in this case — which both sides and the commission openly acknowledge will likely be considered by the courts as well as the board — it also made deep cuts into the written testimony of attorney Nancy Lemon, a domestic violence expert who drew damning conclusions about Mirkarimi based on how "batterers" typically behave.

That's been a big part of the city's case, reducing Mirkarimi down to a two-dimensional batterer whose every action can be predicted by that distinction, from the manner in which he relinquished his weapons to police to the reasons why Lopez has resisted cooperating with efforts to charge her husband with crimes

and remove him from office.

Lemon's testimony was based almost solely on second-hand descriptions of life in the Mirkarimi household in a 22-page written declaration by neighbor Ivory Madison, who was also the only witness that Lee said he spoke to before removing Mirkarimi from office. But most of Madison's incredible and fantastical narrative — which painted Mirkarimi as a monster who repeatedly abused Lopez and their son and controlled every aspect of their domestic life, right down to what and whether they ate — had already been discredited and disallowed by skeptical commissioners in June.

"I was disappointed by the content of Ivory Madison's declaration. A first-year lawyer should know that much of it is inadmissible and it should not have been given to us," Commissioner Paul Renne told Keith in June. Renne called the declaration "clearly hearsay, clearly having the intention of poisoning the well of this hearing."

Keith apologized and offered little resistance to much of the declaration's removal, but the city has nonetheless continued to rely on the second-hand accounts of Madison and another neighbor, Callie Williams, in its descriptions of Mirkarimi's conduct and the questioning of witnesses.

But that hearsay evidence and speculation was countered on July 18 and 19 with the extended cross examination of two key witnesses

in the case: Lopez and Mirkarimi campaign manager Linnette Peralta Haynes, a woman with domestic violence training who Lopez reached out to on that pivotal day of Jan. 4 when Madison called the police. Each woman spent more than three grueling hours each on the stand, questioned by city attorneys and commissioners — and they painted a very different portrait of the events than Lee and Madison had.

As for Madison — having had most of her testimony stricken from the record, and with Lopez testifying about Madison's sudden zeal for going after Mirkarimi and involving his political opponents in that process — Mirkarimi's team decided not to call her to the stand for live cross-examination. Attorney Shepherd Kopp told reporters, "I think the neighbor's testimony is suspect at best."

### THE GO-BETWEEN

Haynes was central to the city's allegation that Mirkarimi dissuaded witnesses and sought to thwart a police investigation. Phone and electronic records revealed that she communicated with both Lopez and Mirkarimi many times on Jan. 4, the day Mirkarimi learned that his wife had been confiding with neighbors about the Dec. 31 incident and that Madison had broken that confidence and called the police.

The city's apparent theory was

that Haynes acted as Mirkarimi's agent in trying to cover up the incident and do damage control, including coaching Lopez on what to say to Madison and Williams.

But the city has never had any evidence to support its theory, and this was its first chance to question Haynes, who had been at the end of a high-risk pregnancy and resisted cooperating with the investigation.

Yet despite Kaiser and commissioners grilling Haynes for more than three hours — twice as long as she had told the commission that she would need — no smoking gun emerged. Haynes seemed calm and consistent as she described giving Lopez emotional support and probing to ensure that she wasn't in danger. Kaiser fumbled through technical difficulties and maintained an accusatory and belittling tone even as the answers she was receiving seemed to destroy her line of questioning.

"I think the house of cards that mayor has been trying to establish about witness dissuasion was demolished by Linnette Peralta Haynes, who was absolutely credible," Kopp told reporters after the hearing.

Haynes has a background in domestic violence, undergoing a 40-hour certification training in the mid-90s when she went to work for a domestic violence center in San Mateo for almost two years, then later helping develop and teach a domestic violence curriculum for the jail in San Francisco.

She's familiar with the Power and Control Wheel — the basis for many of Lemon's conclusions — which indicates how physical abuse can be connected to other forms of abuse, such as emotional, verbal, and sexual abuse. It was with this background and training that Haynes questioned Lopez about whether she was in danger and being abused when she got an unexpected call on the morning of Jan. 4.

"She let me know she had an argument with Ross and wanted to talk to me," Haynes said, later answering another question by saying, "She told me she was really worried about custody issues and she was talking to a friend who was an attorney."

That friend turned out to be Madison, who Lopez maintains had represented herself as an attorney who would keep their conversation and the video they made of her injuries confidential, to be used only in the event of a cus-

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## NEWS

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tody battle. The city has sought to cast doubt on that claim — which the court rejected in Mirkarimi's criminal case when it admitted the video as evidence — implying that Madison was simply a concerned friend and the attorney argument was developed weeks later.

Haynes said she asked Lopez whether there had been any prior incidents of physical abuse, whether Lopez felt unsafe, and whether she had been subjected to other forms of abuse — defining each form for Lopez — and that she was told “no” to each question.

“I asked if she thought she was in danger and she said no,” Haynes said.

Later that day, Lopez told Haynes she had made the video: “She told me a friend had helped me do a video just in case I needed it for custody issues...She did tell me that she really wanted to work on her marriage, that she wanted to make it work, but that just in case she wanted to make sure she got custody of Theo.”

Lopez later testified that one reason she sought out Haynes was because Madison had suddenly become aggressive in trying to convince her that she was a domestic violence victim and the incident needed to be reported to the police, and Lopez wanted to get the perspective of someone with a background in domestic violence.

“I said, I have a person telling me this, I want your opinion about it,” Lopez testified.

Around 12:30pm that day, when Madison informed Lopez that she had called the police and they were on the way, she frantically called Haynes from Madison's house and suddenly put the two women on the phone together, which Madison and the city have characterized as a witness dissuasion effort.

Haynes said she was confused when Lopez suddenly handed the phone to Madison: “She said, ‘help me, help me, help me,’ and I’m on the phone wondering what’s going on.”

“[Madison] told me, ‘I’ve been talking to Eliana for several days and I just called the police,’” Haynes said.

Haynes said she asked Madison if she had called any domestic violence agencies or if she just called the police “and she got very agitated” — adopting a defensive tone of voice — and that reaction seemed “fishy” to Haynes.

Asked whether she tried to dis-

suaude Madison from talking to the police, she responded, “I told her she should maybe talk to her friend about what she wants.” She said that she could hear Lopez telling Madison, “This is not what I want, this is not what I want.”

So Haynes said she tried to extricate herself from the situation: “I told her I really think you need to get off the phone, talk to Eliana, and respect her.” And the phone conversation ended with Lopez getting back on the line and telling Haynes to call Mirkarimi to let him know what was going on.

But Mirkarimi was busy and not answering his phone, prompting Haynes to text at one point that he needed to answer “so I can protect you.” What did she mean by that, Kaiser asked.

“My thinking was that something sounded fishy, something wasn’t right, and they need legal help,” Haynes said.

“Your focus had been on Eliana up until then?” Kaiser asked.

“My focus has always been Eliana,” Haynes responded.

Later, asked about the nature of her repeated phone conversations with Lopez, she denied helping her strategize ways to dealing with witnesses or police. “I was just providing support for her, emotional support,” Haynes said, later adding “I wanted to be present for her.”

### THE VICTIM

Lopez testified that while the grabbing incident was unacceptable and serious — which she conveyed to Mirkarimi — she didn’t consider herself to be in an abusive environment or in need of outside help, except perhaps the marriage counseling she had been seeking and which Mirkarimi finally agreed to.

“An abusive environment is when those kinds of things happen every day or every week,” she said, maintaining — in the face of repeated questioning — that this was the first and only instance of physical abuse.

“At the end of the day on Dec. 31, I told him, that cannot happen, this is wrong, we need counseling,” she said. “He realized it was wrong and he took it very seriously.”

But she said that Madison went from being a supportive friend and counselor on Jan. 1 to suddenly becoming increasingly insistent that Lopez report the incident to police in the days that followed.

“She started trying to convince me to call the police in that email,” Lopez said, answering a question about a Jan. 2 message from

Madison, “but that wasn’t our conversation on Jan. 1.”

Lopez said Madison’s approach got more aggressive. “She said, ‘screw him, I have a lot of friends willing to help you,’” Lopez said, noting that Madison offered her the vacant homes of rich friends and offered to bring in journalist Phil Bronstein, DA George Gascon, Attorney General Kamala Harris, and Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom to help her.

“It looked to me suspicious...She was calling Ross’ political enemies,” Lopez said.

When Lopez finally made it clear she didn’t want police involvement, Madison called the police.

“I didn’t expect that my lawyer could call the police on her own. I thought that was my decision,” Lopez said.

Keith tried to tie Lopez’s custody concerns to Mirkarimi’s status as sheriff, driving at that point with many questions. But Lopez said her concern was that California family courts would favor Mirkarimi simply because he’s an American and she’s from a country that has bad relations with the US.

“In this country, I think he’s in a better position than me,” she said. After he again tried to make it about his official position, she said, “As a sheriff, no; as an American, yes.”

She denied the claim by the city and Madison that it was Mirkarimi who sought to improperly use his position, a key element of removing him for official misconduct. Lopez said her conclusions about Mirkarimi’s advantages in a potential custody battle were the result of a conversation that happened much earlier.

“That conversation happened in March 2011. He wasn’t even thinking about running for sheriff at that point,” she said, denying that Mirkarimi ever raised his official position in their custody conversations and claiming the concerns about his power were her own. “He never said that, that was my conclusion of our conversations. He never said, ‘I am a powerful man.’”

Throughout hearings, Mirkarimi’s side has enjoyed strong shows of public support, with many of his supporters wielding signs that read, “I believe Eliana” and “I support Eliana,” both in Spanish and English.

During a recess in the July 18 hearing, Mirkarimi said he appreciated the outpouring of support: “There are scores of people showing their support who think this has gone way too far.” **SFBG**



# CHEAPLICIOUS

BY L.E. LEONE

le.chicken.farmer@gmail.com

**CHEAP EATS** I can't tell you how beside myself I am to be back in San Francisco. I can tell you, but it will sound like it's coming from over there. It's not! I'm right here where I belong, typing at you from the warmth of my very own(ish) clawfoot tub in the bowels of my old dungeon-y hovel at 18th and Guerrero.

Upstairs, in the relative sunshine of our other, airier studio apartment, Hedgehog is pacing back and forth and saying to herself: We live in San Francisco. We live in San Francisco. Until finally she can't take it anymore and shaves off her eyebrows.

You too, dear reader, must be pretty somewhat goddamn happy to hear this. It means instead of me writing about restaurants in Oakland and Berkeley all the time, not to mention points even farther east, I will likely go right back to hardly ever leaving the Mission.

Just last night for example, because neither of our two refrigerators had any food in it yet, we were stuck in one of those where-to-eat thingies, wherein I kept saying: Sichuan Home! And I kept saying: Halu! No, Sichuan Home. No, Halu. And Hedgehog kept sitting on our pretty red couch, looking daggers at me and altogether having eyebrows.

Then she said, "Let's just go outside and walk around the neighborhood and find something. You haven't lived here in almost a year. There will be new things."

"Yeah sure," I said.

We grabbed our jackets and stepped out into the hallway of our apartment building just as Scotty the House was walking by with a bass. "What?" we all said.

"We're back!" I said.

He was going upstairs to get Earl Butter to practice for their cute little bandy. But first he wanted to tell us about where he'd just had dinner, and how awesome it was. New place. Small plates. Outside tables. Tacolicious.

Can there be a dumber name for a restaurant?

Please don't be in the Mission. Please don't be in the Mission, I repeated to myself. Scotty the House is a vegetarian.

"Where is it?" Hedgehog asked.

Scotty the House lives in Oakland.

"In the Mission!" he said.

It was just around the corner, on Valencia, he said, between 18th and 19th. OK. So that was where we eventually walked to.

We were not the discoverers of Tacolicious. In fact, there was only one table left, and it was outside.

"The heaters are on," our hostessperson assured us, and we were sold so she led the way.

Outside is a nice little alleyway between buildings, with a big black-and-white mural of the city along one wall. There are words on the mural, too. And the heat was on and the chips were fresh-made and immediate, the salsa spicy and delicious.

Uh-oh. If I'm not careful, I'm going to like this restaurant, I thought.

I wasn't careful. At \$3.95 a pop, 4 for \$13, we ordered one of everything, tacowise, give or take the vegetarian one. Give, to be precise. But to make up for it, we tacked on a taco of the week, which was achiote chicken, and a side of drunken beans that promised us both bacon and "pickled things." Their words, not mine.

Problem being, we couldn't find anything at all pickled in those beans. It was either an oversight, or a very subtle drunk.

Neverminding that, though, the tacos were, generally speaking, pretty great. Except I don't much like mole so I let Hedgehog have almost all of that one. And the shot-and-a-beer braised chicken and chorizo-and-potato ones were also not my favorites.

I loved the carnitas, the cochinita pibil and the braised beef short rib tacos. The fried rock cod one was also especially wonderful: one nice-size lump of white fish delicately breaded and bursting with juiciness. Honestly, at first bite I wondered if they had injected the fish with melted butter or something. It was heavenly.

Oh yeah: bistec adobado, with big chunks of actually rare steak and pickled onions. You have to add a buck, it's so good. Not cheap. But close enough. **SFBG**

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WEDNESDAY 7/25

SPOEK MATHAMBO

Former electro-rapper and afro-beat practitioner Nthato Mokgata merges his disparate talents as SpoeK Mathambo, churning out a deliciously MIDified brand of hip-hop that switches stylistic identities as boldly as it does casually; his sophomore full-length, *Father Creeper*, veers impulsively into dancehall, indie-pop, and FlyLo beat-music territory, throwing genre tags cheekily to the wind. The brittle electronic textures of Mokgata's studio output don't intuitively lend themselves to a live translation, so it should be interesting to see his live approach.

(Taylor Kaplan)

With Duckwrth, Armani Cooper  
9pm, \$13  
Brick and Mortar Music Hall  
1710 Mission, SF  
(415) 800-8782  
www.brickandmortarmusic.com



SPOEK MATHAMBO  
SEE WEDNESDAY /  
25

WEDNESDAY 7/25

KARL EVANGELISTA  
PLAYS THE MUSIC OF  
ORNETTE COLEMAN

Four bands, one bandleader, all paying tribute to Ornette Coleman: one of jazz's most uncompromising and transcendent figures. From jazz quartet Moon Inhabitants, to vocal ensemble Broken Shadows, to Mills-originated genre-bending duo Grex, stalwart Oakland improv-jazz specialist Karl Evangelista has a handful of lineups in tow, for what should be a vibrant tribute to Coleman's diverse and enterprising body of work. Seeking an introduction to the Bay Area's thriving, ever-revolving experimental jazz scene? Let Evangelista and his rotating cast of conspirators lure you down the rabbit hole. (Kaplan)

8pm, \$10  
Swarm Gallery  
560 Second St., Oakl.  
(510) 839-2787  
www.swarmgallery.com

THURSDAY 7/26

PROJECT: LOHAN

Now that Paris Hilton is AWOL and Kim Kardashian is boring, there's a clear winner in the battle for paparazzi supremacy: Lindsay Lohan, once the nation's great hope for Jodie Foster-style child-star-made-good status. That was before rehab, jail, "exhaustion" hospitalizations, "Firecrotch-gate," all those smashed-up luxury cars, *I Know Who Killed Me* (2007), and so much more. And since LiLo is so ... unpredictable, D'Arcy Drollinger, creator-performer of hot-mess exposé *Project: Lohan*, updates his show's script according to the starlet's latest shenanigans; every word is taken from pre-existing material, including interviews, court documents, tabloids, and other sources of Lohan news and gossip. The girl can't help it! (Cheryl Eddy)

Through Aug. 19  
Previews tonight, 8pm; opens Fri/27, 8pm; runs Thu-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7pm, \$25  
Costume Shop  
1117 Market, SF  
www.projectlohan.com

THURSDAY 7/26

HARRY AND THE  
POTTERS

Spoil alert: Dumbledore may be dead but Harry and the Potters could raise a racket loud enough

THE WIZARD OF OZ:  
MOVIE NIGHT WITH THE  
SAN FRANCISCO  
SYMPHONY  
SEE THURSDAY / 26



to rouse him. With their signature grade of punk rock and high-energy stage act, the wizard rock ... well, wizards, have their brooms pointed at San Francisco as they head to Slim's for a show with the Potter Puppet Pals. The band celebrated its 10th anniversary in June, proving that the power of Potter is



not only lasting but can be used for good — the duo helped found the Harry Potter Alliance, a nonprofit organization that encourages civic engagement among youths using the J.K. Rowling series. So although Muni isn't quite the Hogwarts Express, the not-one-bit-magical ride could be worth it to check out these bespectacled and bewitching brothers. (Julia B. Chan)

With Potter Puppet Pals  
7:30pm, \$15  
Slim's  
333 11th St., SF  
(415) 255-0333  
www.slimspresents.com

THURSDAY 7/26

THE WIZARD OF OZ:  
MOVIE NIGHT WITH  
THE SAN FRANCISCO  
SYMPHONY

More than 70 years after it was made, *The Wizard of Oz* remains one of the most beloved films of all time, dazzling each new generation of viewers with its fantastical story, eye-popping special effects, and magical music. Iconic songs such as "Over The Rainbow" have of course become rightful classics, but the lush score written by composer Harold Arlen was also a significant part of the movie's enchanting spell. Fans will want to follow the yellow brick road to these special screenings of *Oz*, which will be accompanied by the San Francisco Symphony performing the score live — and guests are encouraged to dress in costume, so tap your heels together three times and think to yourself, "There's No Place Like Home!" (Sean McCourt)

7:30pm, \$12.50-\$70  
Davies Symphony Hall  
201 Van Ness, SF  
(415) 864-6000  
www.sfsymphony.org

THURSDAY 7/26

HAMILTON LOOMIS

Don't mess with Texas. Galveston, Texas native and multi-instrumentalist Hamilton Loomis got his start early, performing in his family's doo-wop group when he was a teenager. When he was 16, he went backstage at a Bo Diddley concert to get an autograph. Before the night was over he was onstage playing guitar alongside the blues legend. The rest, as they say, is history. With mentoring from Mr. Diddley and a generous amount of natural talent, Loomis has been working hard to redefine blues and to bring youth and energy to the fast-fading genre. Now he's bringing his infectious blues-funk-soul hybrid to the West Coast for a DVD release party. (Haley Zaremba)

8 and 10pm, \$15  
Biscuits and Blues  
401 Mason, SF  
(415) 292-2583  
www.biscuitsandblues.com

FRIDAY 7/27

"THIS MUST BE THE  
PLACE: POST-PUNK  
TRIBES 1978-1982"

Finally, some good news: three days of post-punk movies at the Roxie!

CONTINUES ON PAGE 80 >>



CONT>>

Spanning the magical years 1978-1982, the series boasts contemporaneous films documenting the scene



as it happened. The most famous among them is Edo Bertoglio's *Downtown 81*, a snapshot of 1981 New York City with cool kids Jean-Michel Basquiat and Debbie Harry. But there's more, much of it in the "live performance caught on tape" vein: from 1982, *Rough Cut and Ready Dubbed* (Super 8 from the UK), and *The Slog Movie* (for all you OC kids); and of local interest, "I Can See It And I'm Part of It: San Francisco Punk Portraits 1978-82," a shorts program revealing high times at the Mabuhay Gardens and a slideshow of work by late SF legend Bruce Conner. Plus, lots more!

Join the rejects, get yourself killed. (Eddy) Through Sun/29, \$6.50-\$10 Roxie Theater 3117 16th St., SF (415) 863-1087 www.roxie.com

## PROJECT: LOHAN SEE THURSDAY / 26

## FRIDAY 7/27

### WYE OAK

Baltimore rockers Andy Stack and Jenn Wasner make up indie rock duo Wye Oak, a band with a folk foundation but contrasting distortion and dream pop leanings. Recently commissioned to write and record a song for the Adult Swim Singles Program — a series of summertime freebie downloads — Wye Oak came up with "Spiral," a swirling, poppy and decidedly darker track than previous tunes. Vocalist Wasner has described the single as a "gamechanger" while on

tour with Dirty Projectors this summer. Sounds like the pair may be heading down a hazy and more electronic-tinged path — their live show should offer some insight into what's in store for future records. (Chan) With Dirty Projectors 8pm, \$25 Fox Theater 1807 Telegraph, Oakl. (510) 302-2250 www.thefoxoakland.com

## SATURDAY 7/28

### BERKELEY KITE FESTIVAL

The 27th Annual Berkeley Kite Festival is this weekend — what better way to relax than with something flying overhead and a terrific view of the Bay Area? The free event will host the West Coast Kite

Championships, which will feature kites as big as houses, kite fights, and free kite making for kids. The sky will be filled with Giant Creature Kites from New Zealand, along with those by the Japanese Sode Cho Kite Team, a Japanese-Style "Rokkaku" Kite Battle for the Skies, and more. And for those nervous about their kites sailing off into the great big blue, there will be kite flying lessons. (Shauna C. Keddy)

10am-5pm, free (parking \$10) Cesar E. Chavez Park at Berkeley Marina, Berk (510) 235-KITE www.highlinekites.com

## SATURDAY 7/28

### BONOBO (DJ SET)

British DJ and producer Bonobo creates sprawling, downtempo, triphop soundscapes that alternately call for introspection or dirty dancing, depending on the song and the listener's mood. The versatility of the DJ's sound is a testament to his skillful manipulation of samples and beats to evoke passionate responses from listeners. Bonobo is often praised for his energetic and innovative live sets, where he borrows from jazz, soul, drum n' bass, trance, and just about everything else. Regardless of whatever fragmented genres he's spinning, he's likely to keep you sweating on the dancefloor. (Zaremba)

With Righteous Thrash 9pm, \$17 Mezzanine 444 Jessie, SF (415) 625-8880 www.mezzaninesf.com

## SUNDAY 7/29

### SF BALLET AT STERN GROVE

Is it the same thing every year? Yep, it is. But the San Francisco Ballet at Stern Grove is pure magic whether



seen under a burning sun or wind-blown fog. This year's program seems particularly suited for an outdoor picnic with friends. Helgi

## WATSKY SEE SUNDAY / 29



Tomasson's "7 for Eight" is one of his most intricately musical creations. Ezio Bosso's café-music score inspired Christopher Wheeldon's "Within the Golden Hour." The misnamed "Solo," by Hans van Manen, gives show-off opportunity for three of SFB's hunks. And if you squeeze your eyes, you just might believe that the kilt-clad lads and lassies in Balanchine's "Scotch Symphony" are streaming in from the Highlands. (Rita Felciano)

2pm, free Stern Grove 19th Avenue and Sloat Blvd., SF 415.252.6252 www.sterngrove.org

## SUNDAY 7/29

### WATSKY

San Francisco native and spoken word poet extraordinaire George Watsky is making a stop on his national rapping tour in San Francisco for a homecoming concert. You may have seen him on Youtube as "pale kid raps fast" (20 million views and counting). If you're not familiar with Watsky, here's what to expect from a Watsky show; a five-piece live band, original songs from all of Watsky's projects, incredible spoken word, and if you're lucky, an illustrious stage dive/crowd surf from the man himself. This time Watsky's show is also featuring the amazing Knocksteady emcee, Dumbfoundead, as well as the musical stylings of the Breezy Lovejoy Band. Watsky puts on a show that attracts fans of all ages; from the rebel-rousing teenager to the lyrically awed English teacher. (Sean Hurd)

With Dumbfoundead, the Breezy Lovejoy Band 9pm, \$16 Slim's 333 11th St., SF www.slimspresents.com

## SUNDAY 7/29

### THE PSYCHIC PARAMOUNT

Spiritualized minus the spacecraft? Tortoise as a bar band? Post-rock without all the drama? The Psychic Paramount is a record collector geek's dream band, reflecting countless sub-genres as it hammers away at a relentlessly Krautrockian insistence on mechanical groove. Despite the



thrash, there's a delicate, glimmering overtone to the proceedings, a Kevin Shields-y vulnerability, that brings a crucial human element to the rigid dynamics. Rarely is extreme repetition this rich and inviting. (Kaplan)

With Phil Manley Life Coach, Barn Owl 8pm, \$12 Brick and Mortar Music Hall 1710 Mission, SF (415) 800-8782 www.brickandmortarmusic.com SFBG

The Guardian listings deadline is two weeks prior to our Wednesday publication date. To submit an item for consideration, please include the title of the event, a brief description of the event, date and time, venue name, street address (listing cross streets only isn't sufficient), city, telephone number readers can call for more information, telephone number for media, and admission costs. Send information to Listings, the Guardian, 71 Stevenson St., Second Floor, SF, CA 94105; fax to (415) 487-2506; or e-mail (paste press release into e-mail body — no text attachments, please) to listings@sfbg.com. Digital photos may be submitted in jpeg format; the image must be at least 240 dpi and four inches by six inches in size. We regret we cannot accept listings over the phone.





DRMS PLAYS THE RICKSHAW STOP SAT/28. PHOTO BY ROTHPHOTOGRAPHIC

Music listings are compiled by Emily Savage. Since club life is unpredictable, it's a good idea to call ahead or check the venue's website to confirm bookings and hours. Prices are listed when provided to us. Visit [www.sfbg.com/venue-guide](http://www.sfbg.com/venue-guide) for venue information. Submit items for the listings at [lists@sfbg.com](mailto:lists@sfbg.com). For further information on how to submit items for the listings, see Picks.

WEDNESDAY 25

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

**Alberta Cross, Everest, Aaron Lee Tasjan** Independent. 8pm, \$15.  
"Bay Got Soul" Boom Boom Room. 8pm, \$5.  
With Melismatics, Miss Hicks & the Superhicks.  
**Carletta Sue Kay, Detective Agency, Bugs in Costumes** Hemlock Tavern. 9pm, \$7.  
**Keith Crossan with Daniel Castro** Biscuits and Blues. 8 and 10pm, \$15.  
**Crystal Stilts, Mantles** Great American Music Hall. 8pm, \$15.  
**Magic Leaves, Lawlands, Grand Lodge** Cafe Du Nord. 8pm, \$10.  
**Jason Marion vs Lee Huff** Johnny Foley's Dueling Pianos. 9:30pm.  
**mewithoutyou, Kevin Devine, Buried Beds** Slim's. 8pm, \$16.  
**Passenger & Pilot, Annie Girl & the Flight, Nora Toomey** Rickshaw Stop. 8pm, \$10.  
**Terry Savastano** Johnny Foley's. 9pm, free.  
**Spoeck Mathambo, Duckwrth, Armani Cooper** Brick and Mortar Music Hall. 9pm, \$10-\$13.  
**Teenage Bottlerocket, Dopamines, Elway** Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, \$12.  
**Tiger Honey Pot, Heavy Voodoo, Elegy, Crimson Scarlet** Knockout. 9pm, \$7.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

**Jill Burton, Scott Walton, Tim Perkis** Meridian Gallery, 535 Powell, SF; [www.meridiangallery.org](http://www.meridiangallery.org). 8pm, \$8-\$10.  
**Cat's Corner with Nathan Dias** Savanna Jazz. 9pm, \$10.  
**Cosmo AlleyCats** Le Colonial, 20 Cosmo Place, SF; [www.lecolonialsf.com](http://www.lecolonialsf.com). 7-10pm.  
**Dink Dink Dink, Gaucho, Eric Garland's Jazz Session** Amnesia. 7pm, free.  
**Andrea Marcovicci** Razz Room. 7:30pm, \$35-\$45.  
**Ricardo Scales** Top of the Mark, 999 California, SF; [www.topofthemark.com](http://www.topofthemark.com). 6:30pm, \$5.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

**Justin Ancheta** Pena Pachamama, 1630 Powell, SF; [www.pachamamacenter.org](http://www.pachamamacenter.org). 8pm, free.  
**Maria De Barros** Yoshi's SF. 8pm, \$20.  
**Toast Inspectors** Plough and Stars. 9pm.

DANCE CLUBS

**Booty Call** Q-Bar, 456 Castro, SF; [www.booty-callwednesdays.com](http://www.booty-callwednesdays.com). 9pm. Juanita MORE! and

Joshua J host this dance party.  
**Coo-Yah!** Som., 2925 16th St, SF; (415) 558-8521. 10pm, free. DJs Daneekah and Green B spin reggae and dancehall with weekly guests.  
**Full-Step!** Tunnel Top. 10pm, free. Hip-hop, reggae, soul, and funk with DJs Kung Fu Chris and Bizzi Wonda.  
**Hardcore Humpday Happy Hour** KRKL, 52 Sixth St, SF; (415) 658-5506. 6pm, \$3.  
**Obey the Kitty: Ean Golden, Justin Milla** Vessel, 85 Campton, SF; [www.vesselself.com](http://www.vesselself.com). 10pm, \$10.  
**Shutter** Elbo Room. 10pm, \$5. With DJs Nako, Omar, and Justin.

THURSDAY 26

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

**Ettes, Nectarine Pie, Warm Pie** Thee Parkside. 9pm, \$10.  
**Farewell Drifters, Shants** Hotel Utah. 9pm, \$10.  
**Gunshy** Johnny Foley's. 9pm, free.  
**Harry & the Potters, Potter Puppet Pals** Slim's. 7:30pm, \$15.  
**Lee Huff vs Jason Marion** Johnny Foley's Dueling Pianos. 9:30pm.  
"iStandard Producer Showcase: Bay Area Edition" Rockit Room. 9:30pm, \$15.  
**King Tuff, Jaill, Coathangers** Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, \$12.  
**Hamilton Loomis** Biscuits and Blues. 8 and 10pm, \$15.  
**Pacific Dub, Katastro** Cafe Du Nord. 8pm, \$10.  
**Sioux City Kid, Ferocious Few, Mahgeetah** Independent. 8pm, \$15.  
**St. Lucia, Do, popscene DJs** Rickshaw Stop. 9:30pm, \$14-\$15.  
**Sweet Chariot, Cuates, Josh Harmony** Hemlock Tavern. 9pm, \$7.  
**Tumbleweed Wanderers, Rin Tin Tiger, Ghost and the City** Great American Music Hall. 8pm, \$15.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

**John Pizzarelli Quartet** Yoshi's SF. 8pm, \$24; 10pm, \$20.  
**Andrea Marcovicci** Razz Room. 7:30pm, \$35-\$45.  
**Ned Boyton Trio** Bottle Cap, 1707 Powell, SF; [www.bottlecapssf.com](http://www.bottlecapssf.com). 7-10pm.  
**Eddy Ramirez** Savanna Jazz. 7:30pm, \$5.  
**Slippery Slope, Allison Lovejoy, Mindi Hadan** Amnesia. 8pm, \$7-\$10.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

**Bluegrass and old-time jam** Atlas Cafe, 3049 20 St, SF; [www.atlascafe.net](http://www.atlascafe.net). 8-10pm, free.  
**Set Dancing** Plough and Stars. 9pm.  
**Twang! Honky Tonk** Fiddler's Green, 1330 Columbus, SF; [www.twanghonkytonk.com](http://www.twanghonkytonk.com). 5pm.

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# HEMLOCK

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WED JUL 25 9:00pm, \$7	<b>CARLETTA SUE KAY</b> Detective Agency (Seattle), Bugs in Costumes
THU JUL 26 9:00pm, \$7	<b>SWEET CHARIOT</b> Cuates (feat. Lee Romero), Josh Harmony
FRI JUL 27 9:30pm, \$10	<b>INTELLIGENCE (IN THE RED)</b> Personal & the Pizzas, Ggreen
SAT JUL 21 9:00pm, \$7	<b>URBAN BLIGHT</b> Creem, Permanent Ruin, Hunting Party
SUN JUL 29 9:00pm, \$7	<b>EXTRA CLASSIC</b> Low Flying Owls, Pony Village (Portland)
MON JUL 30 9:30pm, FREE	<b>PUNK ROCK SIDESHOW</b>
TUE JUL 31 9:00pm, \$6	<b>ELECTRIC SHEPHERD</b> Billions and Billions
WED AUG 1 9:00pm, \$8	<b>THE SIGHTS</b> Southeast Engine, Slow Moving Lions of the Vegetable World
THU AUG 2 9:00pm, \$6	<b>LENZ</b> Uzi Rash, City Deluxe
FRI AUG 3 9:00pm, \$7	<b>NIGHT BIRDS (NJ)</b> Sharp Objects, Ruleta Rusa, Bad Coyotes
SAT AUG 4 9:30pm, \$7	<b>THE PLEASURE KILLS</b> The Sweet Pups (Seattle, ex- Cute Lepers), The Ballantynes

UPCOMING: The Wild Kindness, Former Friends Of Young Americans, Cosmonauts, Gap Dream, Mansfield Aviator, Domestic Electrics, Young Moon (record release), Vestals, Danny Paul Grody, Sporting Life, My Second Surprise, Vir, Lovely Bad Things (Burger), Dikes of Holland (Austin), Wimps, Tied to the Branches, Serpent Crown

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**FOREVERLAND**

SUNDAY 7/29  
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REDEMPTION

FRIDAY 8/3  
**POP ROCKS**

MONDAY 9/10  
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THURSDAY 6/7 - SATURDAY 6/9  
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**DON REED'S EAST 14th**

Tue, July 31  
**WILLIE & THE LOCOS**

Wed, August 1  
**SISTERS OF SOUL II**

Thu, August 2  
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Fri, August 3  
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THU 7/26	8PM <b>BABY TALK IT'LL GROW BACK SYMBOLICK JEWS</b> (PUNK / ROCK) \$5
FRI 7/27	5:30PM FREE OYSTERS ON THE HALF SHELL, EVERY FRIDAY 6PM <b>DJ'S CARMEN&amp;MIRANDA AT THE ELRIO FRUIT STAND</b> (FUNK / DISCO / POP) TILL 2AM, NOS 7:30PM <b>RED HOTS BURLESQUE</b> EVERY FRIDAY 9PM <b>THE PEOPLE'S PARTY</b> - OLD SCHOOL & HIP HOP DJs NOS
SAT 7/28	3PM <b>MANGO: SWEET SEXY FUN FOR WOMEN</b> TILL 8:30 9PM <b>M.C. MEATHOOK &amp; THE VITAL ORGANS, BUTT PROBLEMS, GO TIME!, TENDER</b> (PUNK) \$7
SUN 7/29	3PM <b>SWAGGER LIKE US: A QUEER HIP-HOP DANCE PARTY</b>
MON 7/30	S1 PBR/S2 WELL DOLLAR DAY, ALL DAY 9PM <b>RADICAL VINYL</b> -DJ'S SPIN FUNK+HIPHOP, OLDIES+PUNK! NOS
TUE 7/31	7PM <b>LADY ZEITGEIST MATT HERMAN</b> (METAL / LOOP) NO \$ FRONT ROOM

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## MUSIC LISTINGS

CONT>>

Live country music, dancing, and giveaways.

### DANCE CLUBS

**Afrolicious** Elbo Room. 9:30pm, \$8. Live acts Luminaries and Afrolicious, and DJ-host Pleasuremaker spins Afrobeat, Tropicália, electro, samba, and funk.  
**All 80s Thursday** Cat Club. 9pm, \$6 (free before 9:30pm). Two dance floors bumpin' with the best of 80s mainstream and underground with DJ's Damon, Steve Washington, Dangerous Dan, and guests.  
**Base:** Chaim Vessel, 85 Campton, SF; www.vesself.com. 10pm, \$10.  
**Tropicana** Madrone Art Bar. 9pm, free. Salsa, cumbia, reggaeton, and more with DJs Don Bustamante, Apocolypto, Sr. Saen, Santero, and Mr. E.

### FRIDAY 27

### ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

**Anthem** Johnny Foley's. 9pm, free.  
**Big K.R.I.T., Casey Veggies, Big Sant, Tito Lopez** Slim's. 9pm, \$21.  
**Bone Awl, Cirrhus, Verglas** Elbo Room. 9:30pm, \$8.  
**Bruises, Dirty Ghosts, Sporting Life** Bottom of the Hill. 9:30pm, \$10.  
**Future Twin** SPARC Dispensary, 1256 Mission, SF; RSVP www.sparcsf.org/gkr. 7-10pm, free.  
**Lee Huff, Rome Balestrieri, Jason Marion** Johnny Foley's Dueling Pianos. 9pm.  
**Intelligence, Personal & the Pizzas, Ggreen** Hemlock Tavern. 9:30pm, \$10  
"iStandard Producer Showcase: Bay Area Edition" Rockit Room. 9:30pm, \$15.  
**Malone Brothers, Huckle** Great American Music Hall. 9pm, \$21-\$25.  
**Memorials, Seshen, Mission Bells** Brick and Mortar Music Hall. 9pm, \$10-\$15.  
**Sam Chase, Bikini Complex, Debbie Neiger** Independent. 9pm, \$12.  
**EC Scott** Biscuits and Blues. 8 and 10pm, \$20.  
**Social Studies, Battlehooch, Siddhartha** Rickshaw Stop. 9pm, \$10.  
**Tambo Rays, Meat Market, Cogito, Evil Eyes** Thee Parkside. 9pm, \$6.

### JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

**Audium** 1616 Bush, SF; www.audium.org. 8:30pm, \$20. Theater of sound-sculptured space.  
**Carol Luckenbach** Savanna Jazz. 7:30pm, \$8.  
**Terry Disely** Bottle Cap, 1707 Powell, SF; www.bottlecapssf.com. 7-10pm.  
**Andrea Marcovicci** Razz Room. 7:30pm, \$35-\$45.  
**Meta Bionic** Lab. 8pm, \$12-\$25. Multimedia performances by M+V, Guillermo Galindo, NASSA.  
**Supplicants** Red Poppy Art House. 9pm, \$12-\$20.

### FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

**Baxtolo Drom** Amnesia. 9pm, \$7-\$10.  
**Wil Campa y su Gran Union** Yoshi's SF. 8pm, \$20; 10:30pm, \$20.  
**Coelho & Ridnell, Antonio Guedes and Chillaquiles** Cafe Du Nord. 9:30pm, \$12.  
**Lady Crooners** Plough and Stars. 9pm.  
**Taste Fridays** 650 Indiana, SF; www.tastefridays.com. 8pm, \$18. Salsa and bachata dance lessons, live music.  
**Trio Garufa** de Young Museum, 50 Hagiwara Tea Garden, SF; deyoung.famsf.org. 6pm.  
**Vindya Red** Poppy Art House. 8pm, \$15.

### DANCE CLUBS

**Crystal Method (DJ set), Opulent Temple** resident DJs Public Works. 10pm, \$20-\$25.  
**Joe Lookout**, 3600 16th St., SF; www.lookoutsf.com. 9pm. Eight rotating DJs, shirt-off drink specials.  
**Old School JAMZ** El Rio. 9pm. Fruit Stand DJs spinning old school funk, hip-hop, and R&B.  
**Paris to Dakar** Little Baobab, 3388 19th St, SF; (415) 643-3558. 10pm, \$5. Afro and world music with rotating DJs including Stepwise, Steve, Claude, Santero, and Elembe.  
**Project Mayhem** DNA Lounge. 9pm, \$10-\$15. Dubstep with Bassex, Rudebrat, DJ Mykill, Liam Shy, Atom One, and more.  
**Toolroom Knights: Filthy Rich** Vessel, 85 Campton, SF; www.vesself.com. 10pm, \$10-\$20.

### SATURDAY 28

### ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

**Rome Balestrieri, Jason Marion, Lee Huff, Johnny Foley's** Dueling Pianos. 9pm.  
**Big Eagle** Riptide. 9:30pm, free.  
**DRMS, Shotgun Wedding Quintet, St. Tropez** Rickshaw Stop. 8:30pm, \$12.  
**40neFunktion, Jeremy Ellis** Elbo Room. 10pm, \$10.  
**Hamsa Lily, Fanna-Fi-Allah Sufi Qawwali Party** Great American Music Hall. 9pm, \$20-\$25.  
**Kaskade, Dirtyphonics, Fareoh** Bill Graham Civic Auditorium, 99 Grove, SF; www.apeconcerts.com. 8pm, \$59.50.  
**Loquat, Young Digerati, Foxtail Somersault, Tzigane Society** Slim's. 8:30pm, \$14.  
**Joyce Manor, Wild Moth, Summer Vacation, Yulia** Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, \$10.  
**MC Meathook & the Vital Organs, Butt Problems, Go Time!, Tender** El Rio. 9pm, \$7.  
**John Pieplow** Red Devil Lounge. 8pm, \$10.  
**Planet Booty, JaysoniK** Brick and Mortar Music Hall. 9pm, \$7-\$10.  
**Rasio Revolt, Year of the Fist** Thee Parkside. 3pm, free.  
**Sister Sparrow & the Dirty Birds** Boom Boom Room. 8pm, \$15.  
**Steel Pulse** Independent. 9pm, \$35.  
**Earl Thomas & the Ambassadors** Biscuits and Blues. 7 and 9pm, \$22.  
**Top Secret Band** Johnny Foley's. 9pm, free.  
**Truth & Salvage Co., Oak Creek Band** Cafe Du Nord. 9pm, \$10-\$12.  
**Urban Blight, Creem, Permanent Ruin, Hunting Party** Hemlock Tavern. 9pm, \$7.  
**Yanni Nob Hill** Masonic Center, 1111 California, SF; www.masonicauditorium.com. 8pm, \$49.50-\$125.

### JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

**Audium** 1616 Bush, SF; www.audium.org. 8:30pm, \$20. Theater of sound-sculptured space.  
**Wil Campa y su Gran Union** Yoshi's SF. 8pm and 10:30pm, \$35.  
**Andrea Marcovicci** Razz Room. 7:30pm, \$35-\$45.  
**Reedsman Jim Butler** Savanna Jazz. 7:30pm.

### FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

**Wil Campa y su Gran Union** Yoshi's. 8 and 10:30pm, \$25.  
**N. Rumba** Ramp, 855 Terry Francois, SF; www.theramprestaurant.com. 5-8pm, free.  
**Sons of Bitches** Plough and Stars. 9pm.

### DANCE CLUBS

**Bootie: Mysterious D's Birthday** DNA Lounge. 9pm, \$10-\$15. With DJ Mysterious D, Smash-Up Derby, Adrian, John! John!, Dada.  
**Icee Hot with Jam City** Public Works Loft. 10:30pm.  
**Paris to Dakar** Little Baobab, 3388 19th St, SF; (415) 643-3558. 10pm, \$5. Afro and world music with rotating DJs including Stepwise, Steve, Claude, Santero, and Elembe.  
**Scooter and Lavella** Vessel, 85 Campton, SF; www.vesself.com. 10pm, \$10-\$20.

### SUNDAY 29

### ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

**Bordertown Saints, Get Dead, City** Bottom of the Hill. 1pm, \$8.  
**Caustic, Everything Goes Cold, Crashfaster, Whormongr** DNA Lounge. 8:30pm, \$11.  
**Dangerous Summer, New Empire, From Indian Lakes** Cafe Du Nord. 8:30pm, \$10.  
**Extra Classic, Low Flying Owls, Pony Village** Hemlock Tavern. 9pm, \$7.  
**Iron Maidens** Broadway Studios, 435 Broadway, SF; www.broadwaystudios.com. 8pm, \$15.  
**Aaron Leese and the Panhandlers** Boom Boom Room. 8pm, \$5.  
**Psychic Paramount, Phil Manley Life Coach, Barn Owl** Brick and Mortar Music Hall. 8pm, \$9-\$12.  
**Terry Savastano** Johnny Foley's. 9pm, free.  
**Two Man Gentleman Band** Amnesia. 8pm, \$10.  
**Watsky, Dumbfounded & the Breezy Love Joy Band** Slim's. 9pm, \$14-\$16.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 84 >>



MONARCH PRESENTS

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EVIL EYES

**SATURDAY 7/28 3PM FREE**

**HAPPY HOUR SHOW**  
**RADIO REVOLT**  
YEAR OF THE FIST

**SUNDAY 7/29 4PM FREE**

**TWANG SUNDAY**  
**THE GOLDDIGGERS**  
WHISKEY PILLS FIASCO

**TUESDAY 7/31 8PM \$5**

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CCR HEADCLEANER  
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8/1 - **STARSKATE**, GREAT APES, ALL EYES WEST, BROADCASTER, BAD LIAR

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8/4 - **YASSOU BENEDICT**, THE HALFBREED LOVERS, CIGARETTES AFTER SEX, GHOST TOWN JENNY

8/5 - **ED SCHRADER'S MUSIC BEAT**, THAT GHOST

8/7 - **GAZA**, EAGLE TWIN, MONUMENTS COLLAPSE

8/8 - **SHOVELS AND ROPE**, QUIET LIFE, KELLY MCFARLING

8/9 - **HERNANDEZ HIDEAWAY**, THE DREAD CREW OF ODDWOOD, FLIP CASSIDY

8/10 - **DEAR LANDLORD**, THE MURDERBURGERS, HEAR THE SIRENS, ROCKFIGHT

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THURSDAY JULY 26TH 8PM \$10 (ROCK/REGGAE)  
**PACIFIC DUB**  
**KATASTRO MY PEOPLES**

FRIDAY JULY 27TH 9:30PM \$12 (WORLD)  
**COELHO & RIDNELL**  
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**DJ SENOR OZ**

SATURDAY JULY 28TH 9PM \$10/\$12 (ROCK/AMERICANA)  
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SUNDAY JULY 29TH 8:30PM \$10 (INDIE) 18+  
**THE DANGEROUS SUMMER**  
**NEW EMPIRE • FROM INDIAN LAKES**

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 1ST 9:30PM \$10/\$12 (INDIE)  
**THE MYNABIRDS**  
**DEEP TIME**

THURSDAY AUGUST 2ND 8PM \$5 (OPEN MIC)  
**SUBCONTINENTAL DRIFT - MIXER AND PERFORMANCES!**

FRIDAY AUGUST 3RD 9:30PM \$12 (ROCK/POP)  
**PERSEPHONE'S BEES** (ALBUM RELEASE)  
**BART DAVENPORT**  
**DREAMDATE**  
**DJ ANDY HUMAN**

SUNDAY AUGUST 5TH 8:30PM \$10/\$12 (ROCK/PSYCH)  
**RADIO MOSCOW**  
**THE DIRTY STREETS • COO COO BIRDS**

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 8TH 9PM \$10 (INDIE)  
**RELIGIOUS GIRLS**  
**AAN**

THURSDAY AUGUST 9TH 9PM \$12/\$15 (ROCK)  
**HEAVY KINGDOM**  
FEATURING:  
**WINO AND CONNY OCHS**

FRIDAY AUGUST 10TH 9PM \$11/\$13 (BLUEGRASS)  
**SHELBY ASH PRESENTS:**  
**URBAN HILLBILLY SHOW**  
FEATURING:  
**MIDTOWN DICKENS**  
**POSSUM AND LESTER • THREE TIMES BAD**

SATURDAY AUGUST 11TH 9PM \$11/\$13 (COUNTRY)  
**SHELBY ASH PRESENTS:**  
**10TH ANNUAL HONKY-TONK SHOWDOWN**  
FEATURING:  
**THE STAIRWELL SISTERS**  
**THE COUNTRY MOURNS W/ MISSISSIPPI MIKE**  
**THE BETTER HAVES • DJ BLAZE ORANGE**

SUNDAY AUGUST 12TH 8:30PM \$10 (ROCK)  
**THE SESHEN**  
**KARYN PAIGE • EX-PYRAMIDS**

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 15TH 8PM \$10 (ROCK)  
**LOVE AX**  
**THE FOLLO • THE HODGES**

THURSDAY AUGUST 16TH 8:30PM \$15 (SINGER-SONGWRITER)  
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W/ SPECIAL GUESTS  
**JUGTOWN PIRATES**

SUNDAY AUGUST 19TH 9PM \$8 (INDIE) ALL AGES  
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**CALVIN JOHNSON**  
**KATIE & THE LICHEN • THE SHIVAS**  
**THE MEMORIES**

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 22ND 8PM \$12/\$14 (INDIE)  
**AM & SHAWN LEE**

THURSDAY AUGUST 23RD 8PM \$12/\$14 (INDIE)  
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**THE FEROCIOUS FEW**  
MARGEE TAH

**THE SAM CHASE**  
THE BIKINI COMPLEX, DEBBIE NEIGHER  
FRIDAY, JULY 27

**STEEL PULSE**  
DJ FUNKLOR  
SATURDAY, JULY 28

**Weekend at BERNIE'S**  
MONDAY, JULY 30

**THE HOOD INTERNET**  
TANYA MORGAN, PSALM ONE  
WEDNESDAY, AUG 1

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MUSIC LISTINGS

CONT>>

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

**Adrian Areas Latin Jazz Ensemble** Savanna Jazz. 7pm, \$7.  
**Anna Maria Flechero** Bliss Bar, 4026 24 St, SF; www.blissbarsf.com. 4:30-7:30pm, \$10.  
**Andrea Marcovicci** Rrazz Room. 5pm, \$35-\$45.  
**Resonance Jazz** Old First Concerts, 1751 Sacramento, SF; www.oldfirstconcerts.org. 4pm.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

**Forro Brozuca** Ramp, 855 Terry Francois, SF; www.theramprestaurant.com. 5-8pm, free.  
**John Sherry, Kyle Thayer** Plough and Stars. 9pm.  
**Twang Sunday** Thee Parkside. 4pm, free. With Goldiggers, Whiskey Pills Fiasco.

DANCE CLUBS

**Dub Mission** Elbo Room. 9pm, \$6. Dub, dubstep, and dancehall with DJ Sep, and Matt Haze.  
**Jock** Lookout, 3600 16th St, SF; www.lookoutsf.com. 3pm, \$2. Raise money for LGBT sports teams while enjoying DJs and drink specials.  
**Domingos Latinos** Blue Macaw, 2565 Mission, SF; www.thebluemacawsf.com. 6pm, \$10. Salsa dance party with live Afro-Cuban salsa bands.

MONDAY 30

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

**Damir** Johnny Foley's. 9pm, free.  
**Local Strangers** Osteria, 3277 Sacramento, SF; www.osteriasf.com. 7pm, free.  
**This Century, Austin Gibbs, Panic is Perfect** Bottom of the Hill. 7:30pm, \$10.

**Z-man, Lroneous, Bpos, DJ True Justice** Elbo Room. 9pm, \$7.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

**Bossa Nova** Tunnel Top, 601 Bush, SF; (415) 722-6620. 8-11:30pm, free. Live acoustic Bossa Nova.

DANCE CLUBS

**Death Guild** DNA Lounge. 9:30pm, \$3-5. Gothic, industrial, and synthpop with Joe Radio, Decay, and Melting Girl.  
**Crazy Mondays** Beauty Bar, 2299 Mission, SF; www.thebeautybar.com. 10pm, free. Hip-hop and other stuff.  
**M.O.M.** Madrone Art Bar. 6pm, free. DJs Timoteo Gigante, Gordo Cabeza, and Chris Phlek playing all Motown every Monday.  
**Soul Cafe** John Collins Lounge, 138 Minna,

SF; www.johncolins.com. 9pm. R&B, Hip-Hop, NeoSoul, Reggae, Dancehall, Reggaeton, Salsa and more with DJ Jerry Ross. Happy hour all night.  
**Vibes'N'Stuff** El Amigo Bar, 3355 Mission, SF; (415) 852-0092. 10pm, free. Conscious jazz and hip-hop from 1960s-early '90s with DJs Luce Lucy, Vinnie Esparza, and more.

TUESDAY 31

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

**Electric Shepherd, Billions and Billions** Hemlock Tavern. 9pm, \$6.  
**Family Folk Explosion** Amnesia. 9:15pm, \$5.  
**Gaucha** Bottle Cap, 1707 Powell, SF; www.bottlecapsf.com. 7-10pm.  
**Kissing Party, Bam! Bam!, Party Owl** Brick

and Mortar Music Hall. 9pm, \$5-\$7.  
**La Montagne, Sit Kitty Sit, Fever Charm** Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, \$10.  
**Razor Skyline, Drop Black Sky, DJ Kit** Elbo Room. 9pm, \$7.  
**Solid Attitude, CCR Headcleaner, Raw Nite, Molestations** Thee Parkside. 8pm, \$5.  
**Soufly, Incite, Lody Kong** Slim's. 8pm, \$26.  
**Stan Erhart Band** Johnny Foley's. 9pm, free.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

**Crown Syncopators** Pier 23, Embarcadero at Filbert, SF; (415) 362-5125. 5-8pm.  
**Luisa Maita** Yoshi's SF. 8pm, \$18.

DANCE CLUBS

**Eclectic Company** Skylark, 9pm, free. DJs Tones and Jaybee spin old school hip hop, bass, dub, glitch, and electro. **SFBG**

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THE 5  
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PHOTO BY SAM EMERSON

The following is contact information for Bay Area first-run theaters.

**Balboa** 38th Ave/Balboa. 221-8184, [www.balboamovies.com](http://www.balboamovies.com).

**Bridge** Geary/Blake. 267-4893.

**Century Plaza** Noor off El Camino, South SF.

(650) 742-9200.

**Century 20** Junipero Serra/John Daly, Daly City. (650) 994-7469.

**Clay** Fillmore/Clay. 267-4893.

**Embarcadero Center Cinema** 1 Embarcadero Center, promenade level. 267-4893.

**Empire** West Portal/Vicente. 661-2539.

**Four Star** Clement/23rd Ave. 666-3488.

**Kabuki Cinema** Post/Fillmore. 929-4650.

**Lumiere** California/Polk. 267-4893.

**Marina Theatre** 2149 Chestnut.

[www.lntsf.com/marina\\_theatre](http://www.lntsf.com/marina_theatre)

**Metreon** Fourth St/Mission. 1-800-FANDANGO.

**1000 Van Ness** 1000 Van Ness.

1-800-231-3307.

**Opera Bay** Van Ness/Golden Gate. 267-4893.

**Presidio** 2340 Chestnut. 776-2388.

**SF Film Society Cinema** 1746 Post. [www.sffs.org](http://www.sffs.org)

**SF Centre** Mission between Fourth and Fifth sts. 538-8422.

**Stonestown** 19th Ave/Winston. 221-8182.

**Vogue** Sacramento/Presidio. 221-8183.

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**Grand Lake** 3200 Grand, Oakl. (510) 452-3556.

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**California** Kittredge/Shattuck, Berk. (510) 464-5980.

**Cerrito** 10070 San Pablo, El Cerrito. (510) 972-9102.

**Emery Bay** 6330 Christie, Emeryville. (510) 420-0107.

**Rialto Cinemas Elmwood** 2966 College Ave. at Ashby, Berk. (510) 433-9730.

**Shattuck Cinemas** 2230 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 464-5980.

**UA Berkeley** 2274 Shattuck, Berk.

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OPENING

CONT>>

his breakthrough roles in the 1980s remakes of the writer and filmmaker's *Jean de Florette* and *Manon of the Spring*. He returns the favor with his debut directorial work, reworking the 1940s film and crafting a loving, old-school tribute to Pagnol. The world is poised on the edge of World War I; Auteuil plays salt-of-the-earth Pascal Amoretti. The poor widower does the town's dirty work (oh, the dangerous symbolism of hole-digging) and cares for his six daughters — his favorite, the eldest and the most beautiful, Patricia (Astrid Berges-Frisbey), has caught the eye of his assistant, Felipe (Kad Merad). The happy home — and tidy arrangement — is shattered, however, when Patricia meets an inconveniently dashing pilot Jacques Mazer (Nicolas Duvauchelle), who sweeps her away, in the worst way possible for a girl of her day. "You've sinned, and I thought you were an angel," says the stunned father when he hears his beloved offspring is pregnant. "Angels don't live on earth," she responds. "I'm like any other girl." Faced with the inevitable, Auteuil and company shine a sweet but, importantly, not saccharine light — one that's as golden warm as the celebrated sunshine of rural Provence — on the proceedings. And equipped with Pagnol's eloquent prose, as channeled through his love of the working folk, he restores this tale's gently throwback emotional power, making it moving once more for an audience worlds away. (1:45) (Chun)

ONGOING

**Beasts of the Southern Wild** Six months after winning the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance (and a Cannes Camera d'Or), *Beasts of the Southern Wild* proves capable of enduring a second or third viewing with its originality and strangeness fully intact. Magical realism is a primarily literary device that isn't attempted very often in U.S. cinema, and succeeds very rarely. But this intersection between Faulkner and fairy tale, a fable about — improbably — Hurricane Katrina, is mysterious and unruly and enchanting. Benh Zeitlin's film is wildly cinematic from the outset, as voiceover narration from six-year-old Hushpuppy (Quvenzhané Wallis) offers simple commentary on her rather fantastical life. She abides in the Bathtub, an imaginary chunk of bayou country south of New Orleans whose residents live closer to nature,

amid the detritus of civilization. Seemingly everything is some alchemical combination of scrap heap, flesh, and soil. But not all is well: when "the storm" floods the land, the holdouts are forced at federal gunpoint to evacuate. With its elements of magic, mythological exodus, and evolutionary biology, *Beasts* goes way out on a conceptual limb; you could argue it achieves many (if not more) of the same goals Terrence Malick's 2011 *The Tree of Life* did at a fraction of that film's cost and length. (1:31) **Smith Rafael**. (Harvey) **Dark Horse** You can look at filmmaker Todd Solondz's work and find it brilliant, savage, and challenging; or show-offy, contrived, and fraudulent. The circles of interpersonal (especially familial) hell he describes are simultaneously brutal, banal, and baroque. But what probably distresses people most is that they're also funny — raising the issue of whether he trivializes trauma for the sake of cheap shock-value yuks, or if black comedy is just another valid way of facing the unbearable. *Dark Horse* is disturbing because it's such a slight, inconsequential, even soft movie by his standards; this time, the sharp edges seem glibly cynical, and the sum ordinary enough to no longer seem unmistakably his. Abe (Jordan Gelber) is an obnoxious jerk of about 35 who still lives with his parents (Mia Farrow, Christopher Walken) and works at dad's office, likely because no one else would employ him. But Abe doesn't exactly see himself as a loser. He resents and blames others for being winners, which is different — he sees the inequality as *their* fault. *Dark Horse* is less of an ensemble piece than most of Solondz's films, and in hinging on Abe, it diminishes his usual ambivalence toward flawed humanity. Abe has no redemptive qualities — he's just an annoyance, one whose mental health issues aren't clarified enough to induce sympathy. (1:25) **Smith Rafael**. (Harvey) **The Dark Knight Rises** Early reviews that called out *The Dark Knight Rises*' flaws were greeted with the kind of vicious rage that only anonymous internet commentators can dish out. And maybe this is yet another critic-proof movie, albeit not one based on a best-selling YA book series. Of course, it is based on a comic book, though Christopher Nolan's sophisticated filmmaking and Christian Bale's tortured lead performance tend to make that easy to forget. In this third and "final" installment in Nolan's trilogy, Bruce Wayne has gone into seclusion, skulking around his mansion and bemoaning his broken body and shattered reputation. He's lured back into the Batcave

after a series of unfortunate events, during which *The Dark Knight Rises* takes some jobs at contemporary class warfare (with problematic mixed results), introduces a villain with pecs of steel and an at-times distractingly muffled voice (Tom Hardy), and unveils a potentially dangerous device that produces sustainable energy (paging Tony Stark). Make no mistake: this is an exciting, appropriately moody conclusion to a superior superhero series, with some nice turns by supporting players Gary Oldman and Joseph Gordon-Levitt. But in trying to cram in so many characters and plot threads and themes (so many *prisons* in this thing, literal and figural), *The Dark Knight Rises* is ultimately done in by its sprawl. Without a focal point — like Heath Ledger's menacing, iconic Joker in 2008's *The Dark Knight* — the stakes aren't as high, and the end result feels more like a superior summer blockbuster than one for the ages. (2:44) (Eddy)

**Farewell, My Queen** (Benoît Jacquot, France, 2012) Opening early on the morning of July 14, 1789, *Farewell, My Queen* depicts four days at the Palace of Versailles on the eve of the French Revolution, as witnessed by a young woman named Sidonie Laborde (Léa Seydoux) who serves as reader to Marie Antoinette (Diane Kruger). Sidonie displays a singular and romantic devotion to the queen, while the latter's loyalties are split between a heedless amour propre and her grand passion for the Duchess de Polignac (Virginie Ledoyen). These domestic matters and other regal whims loom large in the tiny galaxy of the queen's retinue, so that while elsewhere in the palace, in shadowy, candle-lit corridors, courtiers and their servants mingle to exchange news, rumor, panicky theories, and evacuation plans, in the queen's quarters the task of embroidering a dahlia for a projected gown at times overshadows the storming of the Bastille and the much larger catastrophe on the horizon. (1:39) (Rapoport) **Romantics Anonymous** An awkward, bumbling Parisian chocolatier named Jean-Rene (Benoît Poelvoorde) falls for his gorgeous, equally awkward sales rep, Angélique (Isabelle Carré), while never missing an opportunity to say the wrong thing, surrender to shyness, or panic under pressure. It's crucial for films involving such protracted awkwardness to give the audience something to cling to emotionally, but instead we're handed a limp, formulaic story, sorely underdeveloped characters, and lazy writing in which the protagonists act uncharacteristically stupid/gullible/oblivious for the sake of plot-expedience. *Amélie* (2001) mined similar thematic territory, but its success lay in the depth of its characters; *Romantics Anonymous* is about little more than the *idea* of two hopeless romantics, and that's simply not enough to hold interest. It's beautifully scored, lovingly shot, and steeped in vintage French atmosphere — but that doesn't compensate for sketchy characterization and weak, predictable storytelling. (1:20) *Roxie*. (Taylor Kaplan) **Trishna** Ever difficult to pin down, director Michael Winterbottom continues his restless flipping between the light (2010's *The Trip*), artily experimental (2004's *9 Songs*), pulpy (2010's *The Killer Inside Me*), and the dead serious (2007's *A Mighty Heart*). *Trishna*, loosely based on Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* and set in small-town and big-city modern-day India, lines up neatly on the bookshelf alongside

CONTINUES ON PAGE 90 >>

To our friends at Warner Brothers,  
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CONT>>

Winterbottom's other Hardy bodice-ripper, 1996's *Jude*. By chance beautiful village girl Trishna (Freida Pinto) falls in with the handsome, thoroughly Westernized Jay (Riz Ahmed) and his laddish pals on holiday. A truck accident leaves her father unable to provide for their family, so she goes to work at the luxury hotel owned by Jay's father and overseen by his privileged son. There she gently gives him language tips, accepts his offer to educate her in travel industry management, and enjoys his growing attentions, until one day when he rescues her from roving thugs only to seduce her. Though she flees to her family home and eventually has an abortion, Trishna still proves to be an innocent and consents to live in Mumbai with Jay, who is flirting with the film industry and increasingly effaces his trusting girlfriend as their sexual game-playing becomes increasingly complicated. The shadows of both Hardy and Bollywood flit around *Trishna*, and this cultural transplant nearly works — the hothouse erotic entanglement between its two principals almost but not quite convinces one that Trishna would be driven to desperate ends. Still, even as Trishna, like Tess, infuriates with her passivity, her story occasionally enraptures — the fruit of Pinto's surprisingly brave, transparent performance. (1:53) (Chun) **SFBG**

REP CLOCK

Schedules are for Wed/25-Tue/31 except where noted. Director and year are given when available. Double and triple features marked with a •. All times pm unless otherwise specified.

**ARTISTS' TELEVISION ACCESS** 992 Valencia, SF; www.atasite.org. \$6. **Reconnect: A Film on Cell Phones and Health Effects** (Kunze, 2012), Sat, 8.

**CASTRO** 429 Castro, SF; (415) 621-6120, www.castrotheatre.com. \$8.50-11. San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, Wed-Thu. For tickets and more information, visit www.sfjff.org. •**Spaceballs** (Brooks, 1987), Fri, 7:30, and **Blazing Saddles** (Brooks, 1974), Fri, 9:25. "The Silence of the Trans:" **The Silence of the Lambs** (Demme, 1991), with pre-show starring Sharon Needles, Peaches Christ, and the Midnight Mass Players, Sat, 3, 8. Tickets for this event, \$25-45; visit www.peacheschrist.com for info. **Bearcity 2: The Proposal** (Langway, 2012), Sun, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:25. This event, \$10-12; visit bearcity2theproposal.ticketbud.com for info. •**Purple Rain** (Magnoli, 1984), Tue, 7:30, and **Pink Floyd the Wall** (Parker, 1982), Tue, 9:40.

**CHRISTOPHER B. SMITH RAFAEL FILM CENTER** 1118 Fourth St, San Rafael; (415) 454-1222, www.cafilm.org. \$6.75-\$10.25. **Beasts**



MICHAEL CIMINO'S 1974 CAPER *THUNDERBOLT AND LIGHTFOOT* SCREENS AT THE PACIFIC FILM ARCHIVE.

of the Southern Wild (Zeitlin, 2012), call for dates and times. **Bernie** (Linklater, 2012), call for dates and times. **Dark Horse** (Solondz, 2011), call for dates and times. **Take This Waltz** (Polley, 2011), call for dates and times. **The Queen of Versailles** (Greenfield, 2012), July 27-Aug 2, call for times. **Bill W.** (Carracino and

Hanlon, 2011), Sun, 7.

**DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL** 201 Van Ness, SF; www.sfsymphony.org. \$25-75. **The Wizard of Oz** (Fleming, 1939), Thu-Fri, 7:30. Screening with live orchestral accompaniment. "Pixar in Concert," Sat, 7:30; Sun, 2. Songs from Pixar films, with accompanying movie clips.

**JACK LONDON SQUARE** First Street at Broadway, Oakl; www.jacklondonsquare.com. Free. **Ghostbusters** (Reitman, 1984), Thu, sundown. **MECHANICS' INSTITUTE** 57 Post, SF; (415) 393-0100, rsvp@milibrary.org. \$10. "CinemaLit Film Series: Fairytale Endings:" **Excalibur** (Boorman, 1981), Fri, 6.

**PACIFIC FILM ARCHIVE** 2575 Bancroft, Berk; (510) 642-5249, bampfa.berkeley.edu. \$5.50-9.50. "Bellissima: Leading Ladies of the Italian Screen:" **Open City** (Rossellini, 1945), Wed, 7; **Bellissima** (Visconti, 1953), Sat, 5:30. "The Eternal Poet: Raj Kapoor and the Golden Age of Indian Cinema:" **Boot Polish** (Arora and Kapoor, 1954), Thu, 7; **Awaara** (Kapoor, 1951), Sat, 7:45. "Cool World:" **Heathers** (Lehmann, 1989), Fri, 7; **Thunderbolt and Lightfoot** (Cimino, 1974), Fri, 9:05. "Russian Inferno: The Films of Alexei Guerman:" **The Seventh Companion** (Guerman and Aronov, 1967), Sun, 5. "Always for Pleasure: The Films of Les Blank:" •**ry cooder group '88 santa cruz** (1988) and **Sworn to the Drum: A Tribute to Francisco Aguabella** (1995), Sun, 7.

**ROXIE** 3117 and 3125 16th St, SF; (415) 863-1087, www.roxie.com. \$6.50-10. **Romantics Anonymous** (Ameries, 2011), Wed-Thu, 7, 9. KQED presents: •**A Brush With the Tenderloin** (Bierma, 2011), and **Stage Left: A Story of Theater in San Francisco** (Forbord, 2010), Wed, free. Free screening, but RSVP recommended; visit trulyca.eventbrite.com. **Kids of Today** (De Missolz, 2011), Thu, 7. •**Not a Memory** (Burdenski, 2012), and **Something Personal** (Elsaesser, 2012), Thu, 9:15. This event, \$5. "This Must Be the Place: Post-Punk Tribes 1978-1982:" **La Brune et moi** (Puicouyoul, 1979), Fri, 7:30; **Rough Cut** and **Ready Dubbed** (Shah and Shaw, 1982), Fri, 8:40; "special secret movie," Fri, 9:40; **The Slog Movie** (Markey, 1982), Sat, 7:30; "I Can See It and I'm Part of It: San Francisco Punk Portraits 1978-82" (shorts program), Sat, 9; "Buzz or Howl Under the Influence" (live footage), Sat, 10:20; **Debt Begins at 20** (Beroes, 1980), Sun, 7; **Downtown 81** (Bertoglio, 1981), Sun, 8:15. **Shit Year** (Archer, 2010), July 27-Aug 2, 7. "Johnny Legend presents:" **The Big TNT Show** (Pearce, 1966), Mon, 8; **Mondo Teen: Teenage Rebellion** (Herman and Visconti, 1967), Mon, 6:10, 9:45; **Teenage Cruisers** (Legend, 1977), Tue, 6, 9:45; **One Million Years AC/DC** (De Prieset, 1969), Tue, 8. **SF FILM SOCIETY CINEMA** 1746 Post, SF. \$10-11. **A Burning Hot Summer** (Garrel, 2011), Wed-Thu, 3, 5, 7, 9. **Sacrifice** (Chen, 2010), July 27-Aug 2, 1, 3:30, 6, 8:30.

**TOP OF THE MARK** InterContinental Mark Hopkins, One Nob Hill, SF; www.topofthemark.com. Free. "Summer Movie Nights:" **It Happened One Night** (Capra, 1934), Tue, 7:30. Wine tasting at 5:30.

**YERBA BUENA CENTER FOR THE ARTS** 701 Mission, SF; (415) 978-2787, www.ybca.org. \$6-8. "Documentaries By Ai Weiwei:" **One Recluse** (2010), Sun, 2. **SFBG**

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### **Northern California Action Sports Film Festival**

(September 28-30)

### **Annual Roller Disco Costume Party Fundraiser**

(October 26)

### **9th Another Hole In The Head**

**Horror/Sci Fi Film Festival** (Nov 30-Dec 5)

### **11th San Francisco Documentary Festival**

(Nov. 8-21)

### **15th SF Independent Film Festival**

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** Date of Filing Application: **July 6, 2012**. To Whom It May Concern: The name of the applicant is: **Deborah Ann Horn**. The applicant listed above is applying to The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 3188 Mission St. San Francisco, CA 94110-4504. Type of License Applied for: **41 - ON-SALE BEER AND WINE - EATING PLACE**. PUBLICATION DATES: July 18, 25, and August 1, 2012. L#100025

### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Katherine Pappas (aka Katherine Rollos. Case number: RP12636554.

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of Katherine Pappas (aka Katherine Rollos). A Petition for Probate has been filed by: **Helen Pavlidis** in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The Petition for Probate requests that **Helen Pavlidis** be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, 2120 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704 as follows: August 13, 2012, Probate Department, Time: 9:30am, Room 201. Endorsed Filed, Alameda County Superior Court of California on May 31, 2011 by L. Dotson, Deputy Clerk. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months of the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Petitioner: Helen Pavlidis 402 West Broadway, Suite 400 San Diego, CA 92101. TELE: 619-333-8409. **#100024. Publication dates: July 18, 25, and August 1, 2012**  
**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME** CASE NUMBER: CNC-12-548721. SUPERIOR COURT, 400 McAllister St. San Francisco, CA 94102. PETITION of ROBERT MARTIN DANFORTH for change of name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner **ROBERT MARTIN DANFORTH** filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name ROBERT MARTIN DANFORTH. Proposed Name: **OLIVIA MARTINE DANFORTH**. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: AUGUST 14, 2012. Time: 9:00 AM room - 514. Signed by Donald Sullivan, Presiding Judge on JUNE 24, 2012. Endorsed Filed San Francisco County Superior Court on JUNE 12, 2012, by Dennis Toyama, Deputy Clerk. **PUBLICATION DATES: JULY 4, 11, 18, 25, 2012. L#100016**  
**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME** CASE NUMBER: CNC-12-548752. SUPERIOR COURT, 400 McAllister St. San Francisco, CA 94102. PETITION of Anna Kristen Schenker for change of name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner **Anna Kristen Schenker** filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name Anna Kristen Schenker. Proposed Name: **Anna Kristen Lea Metcalf** . THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: August 28, 2012. Time: 9:00 AM Room - 514. Signed by Donald Sullivan, Presiding Judge on June 26, 2012, by Deborah Steppe, Deputy Clerk. **Publication July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2012. L#113616**

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME** CASE NUMBER: CNC-12-548765. SUPERIOR COURT, 400 McAllister St. San Francisco, CA 94102. PETITION of JUNG PAULINE LEE for change of name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner**JUNG PAULINE LEE** filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name JUNG PAULINE LEE. Proposed Name: **PAULINE JUNG-HWA HUNG**. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: SEPTEMBER 6, 2012. Time: 9:00 AM room - 514. Signed by Donald Sullivan, Presiding Judge on JULY 2, 2012. **PUBLICATION DATES: JULY 11, 18, 25, AND AUGUST 1, 2012. L#100021**

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME** CASE NUMBER: CNC-12-548766. SUPERIOR COURT, 400 McAllister St. San Francisco, CA 94102. PETITION of JUI-LIN HUNG for change of name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner**JUI-LIN HUNG** filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name JUI-LIN HUNG. Proposed Name: **JAY JULIN HUNG**. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: SEPTEMBER 6, 2012. Time: 9:00 AM room - 514. Signed by Donald Sullivan, Presiding Judge on JULY 2, 2012. **PUBLICATION DATES: JULY 11, 18, 25, AND AUGUST 1, 2012. L#100022**

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME** CASE NUMBER: JD97-3188. SUPERIOR COURT, 400 McAllister St. San Francisco, CA 94102. PETITION of GARY A. GONZALEZ, ON BEHALF OF MINOR, FLOYD PIERRE HOUGHTON for change of name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner **GARY A. GONZALEZ, ON BEHALF OF MINOR, FLOYD PIERRE HOUGHTON** filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name FLOYD PIERRE INYANG. Proposed Name: **FLOYD PIERRE HOUGHTON**. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: AUGUST 6, 2012. Time: 9:00 AM ROOM - 406. Signed by LINDA COLFAX, Presiding Judge on JUNE 15, 2012. **PUBLICATION DATES: JULY 11, 18, 25, AND AUGUST 1, 2012. L#100018**

**ALL PATIENTS AND FORMER PATIENTS OF GOLDEN GATE COMMUNITY HEALTH, formerly known as PLANNED PARENTHOOD GOLDEN GATE**  
**RE: Golden Gate Community Health, Case No. 11-31703 DM U. S. Bankruptcy Court, N.D.CA**

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that Golden Gate Community Health, formerly known as Planned Parenthood Golden Gate (collectively "GGCH") ceased its operations on February 28, 2011 and filed for bankruptcy on May 2, 2011. GGCH operated health centers at the following locations: (a) 815 Eddy Street, San Francisco, CA; (b) 2211 Palm Avenue, San Mateo, CA; (c) 2 H Street, San Rafael, CA; (d) 482 West MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland, CA; (e) Eastmont Mall, 7200 Bancroft Avenue, Suite 210, Oakland, CA; (f) 1370 Medical Center Drive, Rohmert Park, CA; (g) 1866 B Street, Hayward, CA; (h) 1230 Hopkins Avenue, Redwood City, CA; (i) Good Samaritan Health Center, 1294 Potrero Avenue, San Francisco, CA; and (j) Novato Youth Center, 1767 Grant Avenue, Novato, CA.

**IF YOU WERE a GGCH PATIENT**, you or your current health care provider may request a copy of your medical records by submitting a written request for your medical records. You may download an Authorization for Release of Medical Records ("ARMR") from GGCH at [www.ggch2012.com](http://www.ggch2012.com). Please submit the completed, signed ARMR to GGCH–Patient Records at:

GGCH–Patient Records  
2370 Market Street, PMB 502  
San Francisco, CA 94114  
-or- Fax: (415) 373-4466 -or- Email: [ggch2012@gmail.com](mailto:ggch2012@gmail.com)

Please read and fill out the form carefully. If you have any questions, please contact us via email at [ggch2012@gmail.com](mailto:ggch2012@gmail.com) or telephone (415) 518-5716.

**IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A COPY OF YOUR PATIENT RECORDS ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 31, 2013**, GGCH will request that the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the California Department of Health and Human Services take possession of your medical records. However, these agencies are not obligated to do so and you should not assume that they will. If these agencies decline to take possession of and responsibility for the records, the patient medical records will be destroyed, pursuant to Order of the Bankruptcy Court.

SUMMONS (FAMILY LAW) CASE NUMBER **FDI -12-776865** NOTICE TO RESPONDENT: ANDRE DIXON. YOU ARE BEING SUED. THE PETITIONER'S NAME IS: JULIE BERLIER. You have **30 CALENDAR DAYS** after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120 or FL-123) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter or phone call will not protect you. If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. If you want legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. NOTICE: The restraining orders are effective against both spouses or domestic partners until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. These orders are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them. NOTE: If a judgment or support order is entered, the court may order you to pay all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for yourself or for the other party. If this happens, the party ordered to pay fees shall be given notice and an opportunity to request a hearing to set aside the order to pay waived court fees. The name and address of the court are: Superior Court - County of San Francisco, 400 Mcallister St., San Francisco, CA 94102. The name, address, and telephone number of petitioner's attorney, or petitioner without an attorney are: Nadine R. Zeltzer, 425 Divisadero St. STE 303, San Francisco, CA 94117. (415) 826-2754. Notice To The Person Served: You are served as an individual. Date: April 14, 2012 by Rosalinda Ponce, Deputy Clerk. **Publication dates: July 25 & August 1, 8, 15, and 22, 2012 L#100028**

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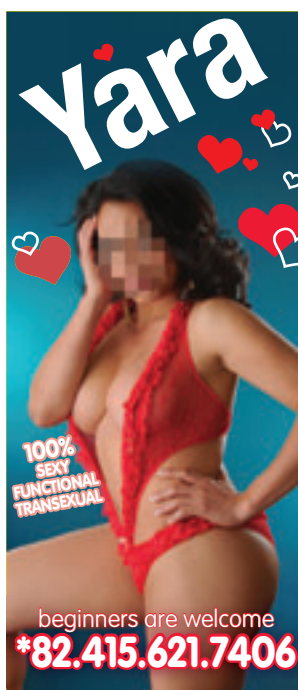
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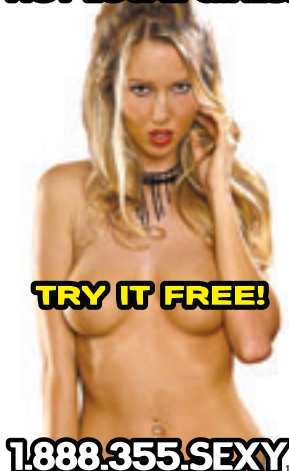


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